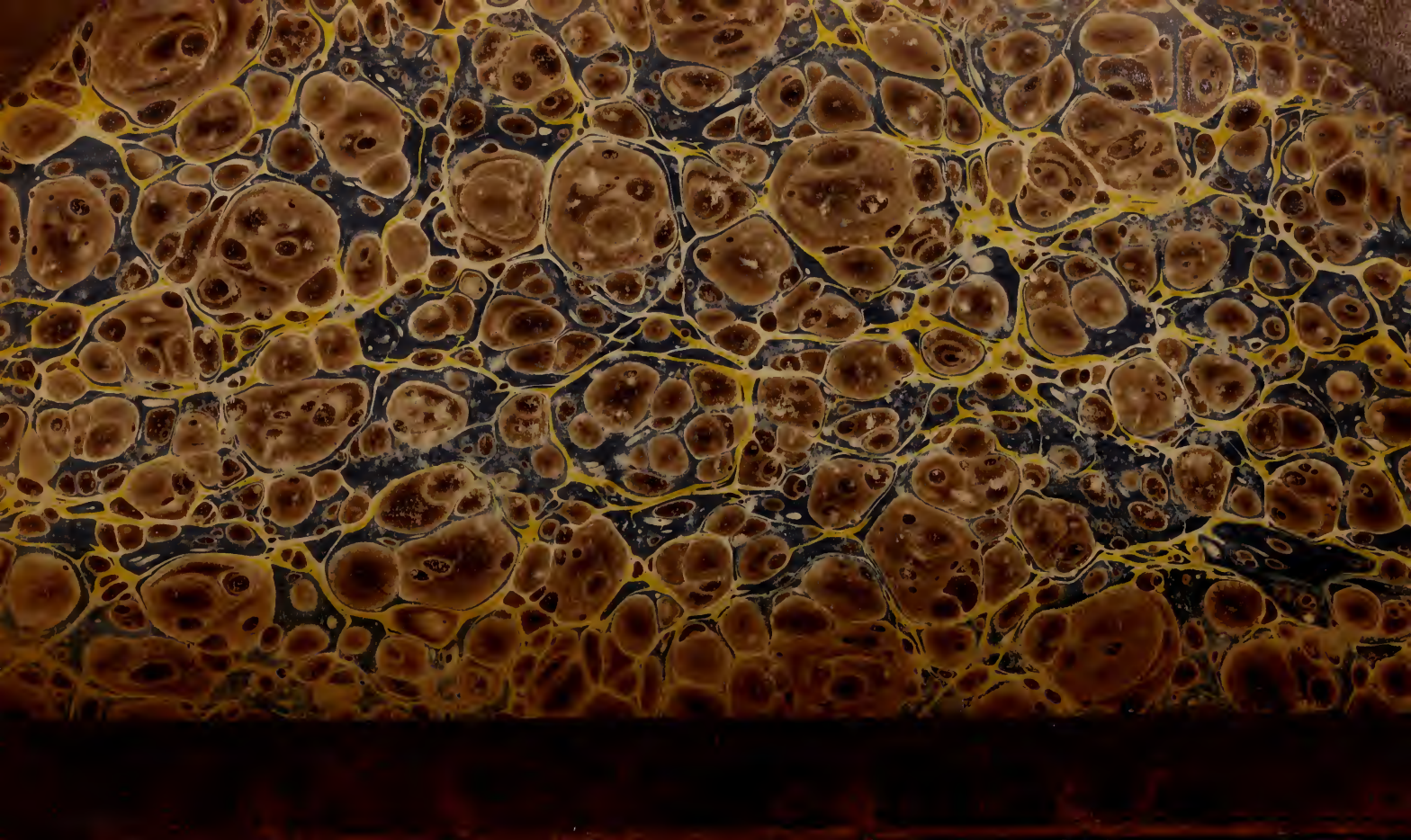

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THE

United Brethren's

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCER,

AND

RELIGIOUS MISCELLANY;

CONTAINING

THE MOST RECENT ACCOUNTS

RELATING TO THE

UNITED BRETHREN'S MISSIONS AMONG THE HEATHEN;

WITH OTHER INTERESTING COMMUNICATIONS

FROM THE RECORDS OF THAT CHURCH.

VOLUME V.

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FORM OF BEQUEST

TO THE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED BRETHREN FOR PROPAGATING THE GOSPEL AMONG THE HEATHEN.

I give and bequeath unto THE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED BRETHREN FOR PROPAGATING THE GOSPEL AMONG THE HEATHEN, at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, the sum of —— —— ——

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THE

UNITED BRETHREN'S

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCER,

AND

Religious Miscellany;

CONTAINING THE MOST RECENT ACCOUNTS RELATING TO THE UNITED BRETHREN'S MISSIONS AMONG THE HEATHEN; WITH OTHER INTERESTING COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THAT CHURCH.

No. 1.] FIRST QUARTER, 1834. [Vol. V.

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c. published in London.]

I. Memoir of the Life of Brother John Leonard Dober, *one of the first Missionaries of the Brethren's Church among the Negroes in the West Indies, who departed, at Herrnhut, April 1st*, 1766.

[Compiled by one of his Colleagues in the Elders' Conference of the Unity.]

Our venerable Brother, John Leonard Dober, was born on the 7th of March, 1706, at Münchsroth in Swabia. His father was our late honored and beloved Brother, John Dober, by trade a potter, who departed this life most happily at Herrnhut, in the year 1753. The remains of his dear son are deposited next to the father's in the burial ground at Herrnhut. His mother, Anna Barbara Link, was also a blessed handmaid of the Lord.

Our late Brother was educated with great care by his parents, and brought up in the fear and admonition of the Lord. He always spoke with the utmost gratitude of their parental faithfulness toward him. He was engaged in their business till the year 1725. In a short narrative of his own life we find the following passage:—

"My conversion to the Lord I may date as early as my 17th year; and it was evidently the effect of a powerful work of the Holy Spirit in my heart. The year following I went to Herrnhut, where my brother Martin lived. During the singing of that verse,

'May in my heart's recesses
Thy name and cross always,
Shine forth in all their graces,
To yield me joy and peace,' &c.

the atonement made by the blood-shedding and death of Jesus was revealed to my heart, and a desire was created in me to devote myself to His service, being convinced that faith in this doctrine was the only foundation of solid happiness. In the year 1726, I was favored with another remarkable manifestation of our Saviour's love and mercy."

In 1727, he returned home to his parents, who required his assistance; but in 1730, moved with them to Herrnhut. In the following year, he became assistant to the late Brother Martin Linner, in the spiritual care of the single brethren. By his affectionate and serious conversation, and his exemplary walk, he gained their love and confidence. In 1732, he left this employment, in obedience to a divine call, and, full of holy zeal, and of faith and trust in the LORD, became the first Missionary of the Church of the Brethren among the Heathen. In the sequel he had abundant cause to rejoice, in perceiving that the seed, which he had sown in tears, had sprung up, and borne fruit a thousandfold, not only in St. Thomas, but also in St. Croix, St. Jan and Antigua,—the congregations of believing negroes in these islands amounting, previous to his decease, to not fewer than 5500 souls. How great must have been the joy of his redeemed spirit, on beholding, as we humbly trust he was permitted to do, nearly 800 negro converts, who had departed before him in the faith of CHRIST, standing before the throne of the Lamb, clothed with white raiment, and with palms in their hands!

This great work of GOD, of which he vouchsafed to make our late Brother Leonard Dober the first instrument, deserves a more extensive description, that our children yet unborn may tell it to their children, and future generations may hear how the LORD was pleased to bless this small beginning, and to render it productive of the most important consequences to many heathen nations.*

The origin of this mission may be traced to the account given by a negro, in 1731, of the desire of his sister to be converted; observing at the same time, that whoever would teach the negroes the doctrines of Christianity, must himself become a slave. The impression made by this statement upon Brother Leonard Dober's mind was such, that he could not sleep. On opening the Scriptures the following morning, the well-known passage in Deut. xxxii. 47, met his eye—"*For it is not a vain thing for you, for it is your life, and through this thing ye shall prolong your days in the land.*" These words strengthened his confidence in the LORD. After weighing them maturely, he at length communicated his feelings to his dear friend Tobias Leupold, whom he found to have received the same impression as himself. He next waited upon Count Zinzendorf, who expressed great joy at intelligence so welcome, yet so unexpected.

Meanwhile many doubts and scruples arose in the minds of his brethren, and the execution of his project met with long delay. It was at length submitted to the lot, and those words drawn, "Let the lad go up, for the LORD is with him." All doubts now vanished; but as Brother Tobias Leupold could not accompany him, he begged to have Brother David Nitschman as his fellow-

* See a pamphlet, entitled *Mission of the Church of the United Brethren in the Danish West India Islands: A Retrospective View of its First Century, from Aug.* 21, 1732, *to Aug.* 21, 1832. London, 1832.

traveller. On the 20th of August they received a direction to depart, and set out in the morning at three o'clock, commended to the protection of the LORD by the whole congregation. Count Zinzendorf accompanied them on their journey as far as Bautzen, where he imparted a blessing to Brother Dober, with imposition of hands.

Both on the road and at Copenhagen, whenever our late Brother spoke of the object of his journey, he was met by expressions of astonishment at his scheme, and by representations of its impracticability. Even the negro, whose report had given the first idea of it, contradicted what he had previously said, and endeavored to persuade him to stay at home. When he declared, that he was willing to become a slave to find access to the negroes, he was only laughed at. But he remained immoveable, and even advised his fellow-traveller, David Nitschman, to return, if he felt any doubts. The latter, however, expressed himself determined to persevere in his purpose. At length some good friends furnished them with the means of paying for the expense of the voyage; but, as no ship belonging to the West-India Company would give them a passage, they were obliged to engage with the captain of a Dutch vessel. The ridicule and mockery, which they endured from the sailors on their voyage were great, but Brother Dober seldom alluded to this unworthy treatment, excepting to contrast it with the comparative comforts and facilities for travelling, enjoyed in later times by the Missionaries of our Church.

Dec. 13th, 1732, they landed in St. Thomas. They were fully aware, that Satan would make vigorous efforts to defend his kingdom, and, among the rest, by all manner of persecution, against those who attempted to instruct the poor negroes. Our late Brother declared, that he felt a great depression of spirits, when he first saw the island; but subsequent experience proved, that the LORD of Hosts was indeed on his side, and that (agreeably to the text of the day on which he landed) he *had already mustered the host of the battle.* Isa. xiii. 4.

Soon after his arrival, he sought out the negro woman, *Anna*, and preached the Gospel to her and her brother *Abraham*, as well as to others present; assuring them, that for them also JESUS CHRIST had shed his blood upon the cross, and that it was his will, that they should believe on him and be saved. The negroes clapped their hands for joy. The LORD truly converted the heart of the negro woman, who, not long after, was baptized, and remained a faithful member of the congregation. Her brother *Abraham* was likewise awakened, and, in process of time, admitted to the privileges of the Church of CHRIST.

The first discourse of our late Brother to the negroes was held on the third Sunday in Advent, on those words of our Saviour, "*To the poor the Gospel is preached;*" and though he could only deliver it in the German language, it was surprising how well the negroes (who speak the Danish Creole) understood him. The doctrine preached by our late Brother, was truly the word of the

cross. He invited sinners, to behold in the crucified Jesus their God and Redeemer. From this doctrine he never swerved, nor suffered himself to be terrified by the wrath of man. He accepted of the kind invitation of a certain planter, who gave him board and lodging, though a stranger; but he stayed no longer with him, than until he could find means to gain his own livelihood. The governor of the island, a religious and benevolent man, afterward made him steward of his household, and provided handsomely for him. But he was not diverted from the aim of his voyage by these outward benefits; for finding that he could not, without difficulty and hinderance, execute the duties of this office, and attend at the same time to the negroes as he wished, and as he preferred to participate in their poverty and distress, rather than, by faring sumptuously, fail to accomplish the object for which he came, he requested and obtained his dismissal from the governor's service. Being again at liberty, he hired lodgings in the town, fed upon bread and water, and suffered much from the brackish quality of the latter. But he obtained the desire of his heart, and devoted himself entirely to the instruction and service of the poor negroes, whose welfare was so dear to him, that he has often declared, that in St. Thomas he was most happy in their company, and his only grief was, when those to whom he preached did not pay due attention to the Gospel.

During his stay in the island, a great number of the negroes died of the bloody flux, and a rebellion also broke out in the neighbouring island of St. Jan, in the course of which three-fourths of the Europeans were murdered by the insurgents, who remained in a state of rebellion eight months; a circumstance, which spread great terror and dismay throughout the island of St. Thomas. Brother Dober, however, remained full of confidence, and uninterruptedly attended to his service in the Gospel, till he was called, in 1734, to succeed the late Brother Martin Linner as General Elder of the Brethren's Church. He arrived at Herrnhut, Feb. 5th, 1735, with a negro boy called Carmel, born in Guinea, who was afterward baptized at Ebersdorf by the name of Joshua. He died in his eighth year, at Herrnhut, in March 1736.

In 1735, and the following years, he attended most faithfully to his duties as General Elder; and it is well known with what grace and unction he acted in this office, which was connected with many trials and sufferings. His Lord and Master knows, and will reward his faithful services. In 1737, he resided chiefly at Herrnhut, and had the education of the only son of Count Zinzendorf committed to him. He was also usefully employed during the sitting of the royal commissioners, sent by the king to inquire into the doctrine and practices of the Brethren at Herrnhut.

July 13th, he married Anna Schindler, a Moravian by birth. He then set out for Berlin, and was in attendance on Count Zinzendorf, who at that time delivered the well-known Berlin discourses, which are still read and attended with great blessing. In 1738, Brother Dober went to Wetteravia, and in August to Hol-

land, where he visited the Jews of Amsterdam, to discover whether the day of their visitation was arrived. He and his wife took lodgings in the so called Jews' quarter, earned their own bread with difficulty, and spent much time in prayer and meditation. He would not receive any thing for his support, that he might not appear to seek his own profit. He was treated with much respect by the Jews; and his conversation made a salutary impression on the hearts of many. Soon after his return to Marienborn in 1739, his wife, who was a faithful handmaid of the LORD, departed in child-bed on December 12th.

In 1740, he went to Copenhagen, performing the journey on foot in very severe weather. He suffered much from bad food and fatigue, frequently walking more than 40 miles a day. The next year he rendered great service to the congregation at Pilgerruh, in Holland, under their difficult circumstances; that congregation being troubled with false brethren, and suffering so much that they were obliged to emigrate. Brother Dober was subsequently called to London, where, on September 16th, 1741, he laid down his office of General Elder, which had become too complicated and burdensome to be borne by any man, however gifted; and he, with the conference assembled on that memorable occasion, committed the whole Church of the Brethren and its concerns to the Lord JESUS CHRIST, the only chief Shepherd and Bishop of souls.

From London, our late brother returned to Holland, and in 1743 married Sister Anna Gertrude Engel, at Herrnhaag. In 1745, he again visited England. After various journeys and visits on official business, he was consecrated a bishop of the Brethren's Church at Marienborn, and was called to Livonia. He arrived, October 7th, at Brinkenhof, where it was rather dangerous for a brother of his name and character to reside; but the love, which he felt for the numerous societies of awakened souls, was so great, that he forgot all trouble and distress, and even in his last illness declared to a friend, that the days he spent in Livonia were among the happiest in his life.

In June 1749, he returned to London, after a dangerous voyage, and thence to Herrnhut. In 1751, he was appointed Provincial of the Silesian congregations, in each of which it was his duty to spend some time. In 1753, he again went to England, where he rendered important services at that period of peculiar difficulty and embarrassment. The help of the LORD, so wonderfully experienced at this crisis, filled the heart of our late Brother with joy and gratitude. From Silesia he was called, in 1758, to Barby, where his faithful services, both in the theological seminary and in the societies of the Brethren, are still held in grateful remembrance.

After the departure of Count Zinzendorf in 1760, he came to Herrnhut, and was appointed a member of the directing board of the Unity, which appointment was confirmed by the synod of 1764. His faithfulness and experience in the ways of the LORD, qualified him remarkably for this office. From the year 1765 to his happy departure, he was occupied in visitations committed to

him by the synod. His labors were every where attended with great blessing and profit to the Church. The latter months of 1766 he spent at Gnadenfrey. His discourses here were particularly distinguished by the knowledge he showed of the mystery of CHRIST, and the doctrine of His atonement, and at the same time by the constant exhibition of an earnest desire, that all the members of the congregation might proceed in the narrow way, and turn neither to the right hand, nor to the left. He also corresponded in the most useful manner with the Brethren in Livonia, Greenland, and the West Indies.

Having returned to Herrnhut in January, it pleased the LORD to terminate the course of this faithful servant, whom He had employed in so many parts of the world, at the place where he had first been called to labor in His vineyard, and to permit his remains to rest in the burial-ground on the Hutberg, among many of his fellow-servants. March 17th, he had a severe attack of acute rheumatism; but as he had frequently been subject to this complaint, his brethren could not be persuaded, that it would lead to his dissolution. From the beginning of this attack, he declared his firm conviction, that his race was run and his labors ended, adding, that he was, through grace, assured of his acceptance with his LORD and Master. When any of the Brethren observed, how necessary his assistance appeared to be to the Church, he always answered, "He who guides His flock, will take care of the sheep. Events will not happen according to your thoughts." He suffered much pain, particularly from oppression on the chest, and frequently repeated several favorite texts and hymns, treating of the sufferings of CHRIST as meritorious for him; and added, that he had no other plea than *that* contained in the verse,

> "Here is a sinner, who would fain,
> Through the Lamb's ransom entrance gain."

At his earnest desire, the Holy Communion was administered to him on Good Friday, March 18th, by which he was much refreshed. Having taken an affecting leave of his wife, he lay in silent expectation of being soon called home, and was sometimes heard to pray for different congregations, particularly for Sarepta.

April 1st, at 8 A. M., he slept in JESUS, aged 60 years. His four children departed into eternity before him.

He now rests in peace; his faithful services to the Brethren's Church in general, and to many congregations, will be held in grateful remembrance; and if we were to quote the many testimonies, received since his removal, it would be yet more apparent how highly he was esteemed.

We may well say, that he was, in the best sense of the term, an original; one of those men, who are more frequently sought for, than met with, in a religious community. His natural warmth of character was softened, and made subject to the grace of GOD, and appeared only when he perceived, or thought he perceived, something militating against the ways or the work of the LORD. He always followed his conviction, and was remarkably punctual

in the performance of every official duty. He knew how to bear and forbear; but where it was necessary, he declared his mind without respect of persons. He loved uprightness, and was a faithful friend; compassionate and tender-hearted, when he had to deal with weak and timid characters, but severe when he perceived insincerity; opposed to all levity; confidential and kind in converse with his brethren, and ever ready to promote their best interests.

The character of this servant of God is thus delineated by Baron Schrautenbach, a contemporary fellow-laborer, and historian of the Brethren's Church.

"John Leonard Dober was a venerable and distinguished man, wholly devoted to his Saviour, and of a character so decided, as scarcely to leave him exposed to the charge of inconsistency. He was remarkable for the clearness of his doctrinal views, and for the unction with which he propounded those fundamental principles of Christian faith and experience, which have since formed the basis of the doctrine of the Brethren's Church. His countenance, manners, and whole demeanor, proclaimed him a man of excellent understanding. His words were few, and his language seldom elevated, but his judgment peculiarly sound. His whole conduct bore the stamp of truth, and was alike opposed to affectation or plagiarism. His disposition and manner were serious; in converse with others he was friendly, and always diligent in the discharge of his duties. He was the first to commence the mission in the Island of St. Thomas, and *that* under circumstances of the greatest difficulty; and he succeeded in giving it a character, which has hitherto proved abiding, notwithstanding the lapse of time and the change of circumstances. During his service in this island, he was chosen to fill the responsible office of General Elder of the Brethren's Unity. Though a strict disciplinarian, he enjoyed universal respect. In his treatment of persons who had forsaken the Brethren's Church, and had enlisted in the ranks of her enemies, he appeared inexorable, whenever he had reason to believe, that their desire to return proceeded from a hypocritical repentance. Nor did he readily pass over any disrespect, shown to the important office which he held. On the other hand, from the very day on which he voluntarily resigned it, he descended at once to the level of the other servants of the Church, appearing perfectly satisfied, during the remaining twenty years of his useful life, with the inferior station awarded to him. Severe toward disingenuous or interested persons, and requiring from each individual a conviction of his call to the Brethren's Church, he approved himself a sympathizing friend and adviser of every sincere and contrite soul; comforting the distressed, directing them into the right way, and interceding for them with others. In conference, his opinion always carried much weight. He was also one of those, who most strenuously resisted every kind of extravagance, whether of doctrine or prac-

tice. Though his delivery was not attractive, his discourses were always full of ideas. He was particularly well read in the holy Scriptures and in church history, but carefully avoided every thing like parade in conversation, on the subject of either. His severe ideas of official faithfulness sometimes made it rather difficult for others, to labor with him in the same yoke, highly as they reverenced his character. The opinion of this eminent man, concerning the weighty office which he held for a number of years, may have been correct. Nor can it be denied, that an office of this kind might be attended with the best results in a congregation of JESUS, if it were more easy to find persons thoroughly qualified to undertake the charge."

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

II. LABRADOR.

THE safe return of the Harmony from her annual mission to the coast of Labrador, calls for a renewed expression of devout gratitude to the FATHER of mercies, on the part of the members and friends of the Society for the Furtherance of the Gospel. The Divine guidance and protection, so remarkably experienced by the six vessels which, during a period of more than sixty years, have been successively employed on this service, were mercifully vouchsafed to the new ship throughout the progress of her difficult and often perilous voyage of 18 weeks. On the outward passage she had to encounter much floating ice off the coast of Labrador, and was more than once in imminent danger from the icebergs with which she unavoidably came in contact.* After contending

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* The following extract of a letter from Captain Taylor to the Treasurer of the Society, describing the peculiar hazards encountered by the Harmony during this part of the voyage, will be read with interest:—

"On the 6th July (about five weeks after leaving the Thames) we first fell in with ice, but, the weather being very hazy, we stood off and on till the 11th, when it cleared up a little, and the land appeared in sight. We now steered for the shore; but, the light failing us, we fastened the ship to a field of ice. We supposed, that we were at this time not more than 25 or 30 miles distant from Hopedale. The next morning the fog returned, and was so thick, that we could not see any object two ships' length from us. Meanwhile the ice closed about us in such dense masses, that there was not water enough to dip a bucket on either side of the ship. We remained in this state till the 13th, about noon; when the fog partially clearing away, we beheld, to our no small alarm, an immense iceberg aground right in our way, our course being at this time in a direction to the S. S. E. It was not till about 3 P. M. that we could at all succeed in our attempts to move the vessel; and even then our utmost exertions, continued without interruption during the space of six hours, only brought her forward about three times her own length. Our object at this time was to get round the point of the ice-field to which we were moored, and thus to place it between us and the iceberg, which was towering above us to the height of nearly twice the mainmast. Our position was indeed a fearful one; and I believe most on board were ready to give up all hopes of saving either the ship or their own lives. The LORD, however, was better to us than our fears; He heard and answered the supplications we offered up to Him, and sent us deliverance in a way we least expected. May we never lose the remembrance of His great mercy! As soon as the field of ice, to which we were attached, came in contact

against these and similar obstacles for nearly a fortnight, she reached Hopedale without material injury, on the 24th July, whence she proceeded successively to Nain, Okkak and Hebron. On the 13th Sept. she sailed from the last-mentioned settlement; and, during a violent gale, which she encountered in crossing the bay of Kangertluksoak, was mercifully preserved from striking against the rocky shore of an island near its mouth, called Nelletok, or the Watchman. After a somewhat boisterous passage across the Atlantic, the Harmony cast anchor in the Thames on the day above mentioned, having been brought safely through the Downs, notwithstanding the violence of an Equinoctial gale, which compelled many hundred vessels to seek shelter in the neighboring ports.

Among the results of the late voyage, which the committee of the Society contemplate with peculiar thankfulness, is the establishment of several points, which, till brought to the test of experience, were necessarily involved in considerable uncertainty. The principal of these are, the practicability of all the four settlements being visited within the short duration of a Labrador summer,—of the new ship, which is of somewhat greater tonnage than her predecessors, passing the bar at Nain, and approaching the accustomed anchorage at Hopedale,—and of her effecting a passage in safety through the narrow and intricate channels between the islands and the main-land. No doubt appears now to remain, that, excepting in very unfavorable seasons, the vessel may be enabled, under the Divine blessing, to execute the whole of her commission, and thus to rejoice, by an annual visit, however transient, the hearts of our dear Brethren and Sisters, who, remote from the comforts of civilized life, cheerfully consent to labor on that inhospitable coast.

Of the progress of the missionary work among the Esquimaux, the subjoined letters will, it is hoped, afford satisfactory details. The Brethren at Hebron have continued diligently occupied; but the work which they had first taken in hand, the erection of a suitable mission-house, they were obliged to suspend, in order to provide a place of shelter and security for their boats, and for the stores received by the ship. Meanwhile they felt encouraged, by perceiving that the Gospel was not preached altogether in vain to the poor Heathen, who visited them from the North.

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with the iceberg, it veered round, and dragged us after it without the least injury, the distance between the ship and the latter being scarcely greater than a foot. Had we not succeeded in getting round the point in the way we did, we should probably have been crushed to pieces in an instant. We continued exposed to the same kind of perils till the 22d instant, and, during the greater part of this time, the frost was so intense, that our ropes were almost immoveable. Even the small ropes were coated with ice to the thickness of four or five inches; so that we were obliged every morning to send up some of our people to the mast-head, to strike off the ice with sticks, that the ropes might pass through the blocks. On the 23d we succeeded, by dint of great exertion, and under press of sail, in getting clear of the ice and reaching the open water, and on the 24th arrived at Hopedale in safety."

Brother and Sister Morhardt of Nain have come home on a visit, the health of the latter appearing to require medical treatment.

LETTERS FROM THE MISSIONARIES OF THE UNITED BRETHREN, ON THE COAST OF LABRADOR, RECEIVED IN 1832.

"*Hopedale, July 31st*, 1832.

"DEAREST BRETHREN,—On the 24th instant, at 4 P. M., we had the great pleasure to see the new Harmony come to an anchor in our road. To that GOD and Saviour, who now for upward of sixty years has brought the Labrador ship safely to our coast, through storms, ice, and fogs, we feel the deepest gratitude, but particularly this year, when the vessel had to struggle with the ice for nearly three weeks. May our humble praises be graciously accepted by Him! We also feel very thankful, that the old Harmony, with Brother and Sister Kmoch on board, after a quick passage last year, reached you in safety. He alone can work such wonders of mercy. This experience strengthens our confidence, that He will grant to the new ship His protection amidst all dangers, as she is devoted to his service exclusively.

"We welcomed Brother Taylor, Brother Albrecht, our new assistant, and Mr. Sutherland, with heartfelt joy; and met in the evening to offer up in fellowship our thanks and praises to our Almighty Preserver. On this occasion we also read the letters addressed to our Conference by your Society, which much encouraged us in our service. May the LORD grant you a rich reward for all you do in our behalf!

"We, European Brethren and Sisters, have cause to praise the LORD for the health we have enjoyed, the peace and brotherly love prevailing among us, and the blessing which has attended our imperfect services done in His name. Our Esquimaux have not been visited with any sickness of an infectious or epidemic nature.

"The winter proved severe, with continued cold and much snow. From December to June there occurred hardly any thaw. The thermometer fell at one time to 34 degrees below Fahrenheit's Zero, and remained longer at that point than we had ever witnessed. The sea was covered with ice from December 10th to July 11th; the Esquimaux, therefore, could not go out much during the winter, and suffered more or less from want of their usual provisions. They were sometimes successful in shooting rein-deer, but they lost many dogs by hunger.

"The severity of the winter has greatly injured our gardens, and our crops are small. We feel the more thankful to our Wurtemberg friends for their most acceptable present of dried fruit, and also for a quantity of peas sent for our Esquimaux. May the LORD reward them for their kindness!

"The blessing with which it has pleased the LORD to crown the preaching of His Gospel in former years, has not been with-

holden from us in that which we are just closing. Many proofs of its divine power upon the hearts of all who were attentive hearers, have been vouchsafed. We may truly say, that most of the souls committed to our care, appear to be earnestly intent upon making their calling and election sure.

" We intend this year to celebrate the fifty years' jubilee of this settlement. On the 2d September, 1782, several Brethren came to this place, built a house, and began, as well as they were able, to proclaim the Gospel, and to collect a small flock of Esquimaux. Now, though toward the end of the last century it appeared, as if little had been effected by the labors of our predecessors, the LORD would not suffer the dying spark to be extinguished, but decreed that Hopedale should remain and prosper. The power of divine grace, about the beginning of the present century, revived the drooping work, and many souls were awakened, and turned in faith to JESUS. Since that time, amidst all weakness and imperfection, there has been a flock of faithful souls at this place, and the LORD has blessed the testimony of his servants, delivered with a warm heart. Though we have experienced, during the year past, some painful effects of the seductive influence of the world, we have had the pleasure to admit three persons to the enjoyment of the holy communion, and to appoint nine candidates for that ordinance. Five persons, baptized as children, were received into the congregation; eight children were born and baptized.

" Our fears, formerly expressed, that the approach of strange traders would prove an injury to our congregation, have been realized; four families, consisting of sixteen adults and fifteen children, having left us and gone to the south. All our admonitions and entreaties respecting the welfare of their immortal souls, and in regard to the Christian instruction of their children, who should be the reward for the sufferings of CHRIST, were fruitless. These poor people evidently hoped, to improve their outward condition without much trouble, and therefore would make the trial, though they expressed their intention of returning in a couple of years. But, alas! how and when is this to be done, after they have plunged themselves into sin and the destructive ways of the world? We can do no more than we have done, in beseeching them to consider the things belonging to their peace, and in fervently commending them to our merciful High Priest, who alone knows how, by mild or severe means, to bring them to reflection; for they cannot but occasionally remember, what they have learned and experienced here of the power of the Gospel.

" At the conclusion of 1831, our congregation consisted of 196 persons. Thirty-one have left us, and our number is now 170.

" Since the commencement of the mission at Hopedale, 124 adults and 202 children have been baptized; 58, baptized as children, were received into the congregation; 106 became communicants; and 110 have departed in the faith of CHRIST. Of

Europeans, four adults and seven children were taken home by the LORD, during the fifty years past.

"We commend ourselves, dearest Brethren, to your kind remembrance in our difficult situation. Pray for us, that the LORD would grant us the necessary grace and wisdom, to watch over our poor people, and preserve us from doing any thing that might injure his cause. Our dependence is solely upon Him.

"We salute you all, and ever remain your faithful and affectionate Brethren at Hopedale,

"JOHN SAMUEL MEISNER. ADAM KUNATH.
JOHN KÖRNER. F. C. FRITSCHE."

"*Nain, August 9th*, 1832.

"DEAREST BRETHREN,—We rejoice to find, that our dear and worthy Brother La Trobe was able once more to write all the official letters; and pray that the LORD would support him, and grant him, by His love and presence, a foretaste of eternal rest. How happy shall we be, to meet each other before the throne of the Lamb, where there will be an end of all sickness and sorrow.

"On the 6th of August, at 1 P. M., we had the joy to see the Harmony cast anchor in our bay, and to receive our dear Brother Fritsche as our future fellow-labourer. We pray the LORD, to bless him among us.

"Many thanks to you, for again supplying us with all the necessaries of life. We join you in praising our heavenly Father, for enabling you to provide those things, without which we could not subsist in this barren land. Were we to consider this as the work of man, we could not conceive, how the means could be provided for its maintenance. It would long ago have ceased to exist; but it is the work of Him, to whom all power is given in heaven and in earth, and who inclines the hearts of his people to contribute to its support according to his good pleasure. May He abundantly bless and reward all our dear friends and benefactors.

"We return our cordial thanks for the presents, forwarded us for the benefit of our Esquimaux. If you could be witnesses of the joy with which these benefactions are received, the delight experienced by the children, the grateful tears of the widows and orphans, you would think yourselves well rewarded. Distributing them as we do in the Christmas season, they contribute to increase its cheerfulness; and, we believe, we therein act according to your wish. Our people are not all present with us before that time; for, till the bay is covered with ice, they cannot arrive, and from May to December we sometimes have only half of our congregation with us, for a week at a time.

"We were glad to hear, that the old ship had a safe and speedy passage home last autumn. She has been conducted safely through ice and storms for twelve years, and we trust that the same mercy and protection, which successive ships have experienced for more than fifty years past, may be extended to the new

vessel. We rejoiced that, after their long services here, Brother and Sister Kmoch arrived with you in safety; and we trust that Brother and Sister Morhardt will have an equally prosperous voyage, and Sister Morhardt's health be sufficiently re-established, to permit their return to us in the spring. We are sorry, meanwhile, to lose Brother Morhardt's services at the organ. The singing has been much improved by the use of this instrument. The new liturgy book has likewise contributed to this improvement.

"As to the spiritual state of our congregation, we cannot sufficiently thank the LORD, that he has led our dear Esquimaux with unwearied faithfulness, brought several straying sheep back to the fold, and been present with us in our solemn assemblies. The enemy still endeavors to entangle this poor nation again in his snares, for which he finds a favorable opportunity, by means of the visits paid to our coast by traders from the south. He spares no flattery, of which, alas! the Esquimaux are too susceptible, and seeks to draw them into every abomination, in which formerly this nation was sunk, and to turn them from the word of life. By these seductive arts, thirty-one persons have been enticed to leave the congregation at Hopedale; and, we have reason to fear, that those who withstand the conviction of the Holy Spirit, will, according to our Saviour's words, become seven times more hardened than before.

"Our people attended the chapel diligently, and with manifest profit, as was proved by their words and walk. Upon the administration of the sacrament our Saviour vouchsafed a special blessing, as likewise upon the examination of the school children, on April the 11th. We could rejoice at their diligence, and they appeared to exert themselves more than ever, that they might be entitled to receive a liturgy book.

"The history of the last days and sufferings of our LORD, was listened to by our Esquimaux with a divine impression upon their souls during the Passion-week and Easter. At the farewell love-feast, held in spring, they expressed themselves grateful for what they had enjoyed during the winter, and begged us to send their thanks to all their friends and benefactors across the ocean.

"One of our young people was drowned in his kayak, and his body has not been found. In our families we have, by the blessing of GOD, lived in brotherly love, and enjoyed peace and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. Sister Morhardt suffered from illness, but the rest of us enjoyed uninterruped health.

"Having completed the building of our new house, we left the old one with thanks and praise to the LORD for all the blessings experienced in our former dwelling; and devoted that, into which we now entered, to His service, when we removed into it on the 19th of October.

"In the year past, seventeen children were born and baptized; five youths were received into the congregation; four persons were admitted communicants, and five as candidates; four couples

were married; three adults and one child departed this life; eighteen persons went to live at Hebron, and two at Hopedale; three were added to our congregation.

"We commend ourselves and the work of the LORD at Nain to your continued remembrance and prayers, especially in prospect of the time of temptation, which seems to be coming upon all the earth; and saluting you all most cordially, remain your very affectionate Brethren,

"JOHN LUNDBERG. CHRISTIAN BENEDICT HENN.
JOHN LEWIS MORHARDT. GEORGE HERZBERG."

"*Okkak, August 22d*, 1832.

"DEAREST BRETHREN,—The most lively joy and gratitude filled our hearts, when we anew experience the mercy of GOD our Saviour toward us, his poor weak servants, by the safe arrival of the new Harmony at Hopedale, on the 25th July. We soon met, and read your kind letter of May 28th, which proved a great encouragement to us; and we covenanted together anew, to serve the LORD with diligence and faithfulness, depending upon His strength, which is made perfect in weakness.

"We have had a very severe winter, and a great quantity of snow. The weather in spring was rough and cold, and compared with other years, we have also a cold summer, yet with the benefit of rain; so that we now have a prospect of a small crop of garden produce.

"The meetings of the congregation have been well attended, and the LORD has blessed the preaching of the cross to the hearts of the Esquimaux. They are more and more convinced that they are sinners, and cannot obtain deliverance and divine life, but through the merits of our Saviour. Amidst much weakness and many defects, they experience the care and help of the only true Physician of soul and body.

"The schools have been well attended, and we rejoice to report, that the children in general are diligently intent upon their lessons, and find pleasure in learning them.

"The exertions of our people, to provide for their outward subsistence, were not so successful last autumn as in former years, nor did they obtain much in spring; yet our heavenly Father did not suffer them to want. We always recommend to them to attend to the cod-fishery, which provides a good and certain resource for the winter months. Such as neglect it, feel the want of this provision. In spring they were successful in hunting reindeer, by which they obtained a fresh supply of food.

"Many Esquimaux from the north came to us in sledges and boats. They only came to trade; but, though we did not fail to speak with them of the one thing needful, every one had a different excuse for neglecting or postponing his conversion. May the LORD's hour soon strike for the awakening of their hearts! We represented to them, that the time of their death was uncertain,

and that the neglect of their soul's salvation would involve them in great misery.

"In the past year, 11 adults and 18 children were baptized; and 10 persons departed this life. The congregation consists of 115 communicants; 62 baptized adults not communicants; 126 baptized children; 8 candidates for baptism; 13 on trial; in all, 326 persons.

"In our missionary family, we have, in general, enjoyed the blessing of health, and, by the help of our LORD, could perform all our duties with cheerfulness; but Sister Stürman, after an illness of several weeks, departed this life happily, on September 7th. Her dear husband felt her loss severely, but the LORD has been his comfort and support, and, we doubt not, will continue to be his helper in every time of need.

"August 13th, we had the joy to see Brother Kruth arrive with us from Hebron, as our fellow-laborer. We joined him in thanks to our Almighty Preserver for his escape from the boisterous ocean, having encountered a most violent storm off the promontory Kaumayok.

"We return many thanks for the ample supply of the necessaries of life sent us, and pray GOD richly to reward you, and all that take share in the support of this mission. The grace of our Lord JESUS CHRIST be with you all. We salute you in true fellowship of spirit, and remain your faithful and affectionate Brethren at Okkak.

(Signed) "JOHN CHRISTIAN BECK. FREDERIC KNAUS.
SAMUEL STÜRMAN. ZACHARY GLITSCH."

"*Hebron, August 22d*, 1832.

"DEAREST BRETHREN,—We were truly rejoiced to hear of the safe arrival of the Harmony on our coasts. Some of our people being at sea, with two rafts of fire-wood, we had been rather anxious about their safety on account of the late gales; but on August 6th, they arrived safe, and were soon followed by the missionary boat, the Union, which brought us the joyful news of the new ship having reached Hopedale on July 24th. We thank you, dearest Brethren, for the particular interest you take in our welfare, and for all your good wishes and prayers, that the LORD would cause our weak endeavors, and our work done in His name, to tend to His honor and glory. We pray that the aim of this new establishment may be obtained, for which your society has so zealously exerted itself, that many Heathen may hear the saving word of the Gospel, and receive it in faith. This will be your best reward for all you have done for us, and may He bless all those dear friends who have assisted you in this undertaking.

"Our dear Brethren may perhaps think, we could have advanced further with our buildings than we have done; but from the particulars we send them, they will see, that a great deal was wanting before we could proceed. The small house was, indeed, in some respects, habitable, when the two ships arrived last year,

and there was some room for stowage; but there was so much to be done in providing furniture and making various alterations, and preparing the necessary defences against the severity of the winter, that, with all diligence, we could not begin the building of the new Mission-house till autumn last, especially as the timbers and planks had to be cut and prepared. We likewise had to build a boat-house, and store-houses for various articles which required to be screened from the frost, and to cover the outer walls of our house with planks. We have made some gardens, and enclosed them with palisadoes, but the ground is very barren, and will require many years manuring with sea weeds, to render it at all fit for the cultivation of garden produce.

"As to the spiritual course of the Esquimaux committed to our care, we have cause to rejoice, that many of them grow in the knowledge and love of our Saviour. They are convinced, that without his mercy they cannot withstand the evil propensities of human nature, but as they do not fall into open sin, they are very apt to think that all is right. A desire to walk worthily of the Gospel in all things, is the work of GOD'S Spirit alone.

"During the winter our meetings were well attended, and likewise in the early spring; but soon after Easter, almost all our people crossed the bay, and but few could attend our worship. Now that the sea is open, many come to the Sunday morning services, and on August 13th, we had a tolerable number of communicants with us. At present, beside our work-people and the sick and aged, none are resident here.

"Our schools have been blessed by the LORD. About thirty children and young people attend them diligently. They had sometimes to be omitted on account of the severity of the weather; yet at the examination, held before Easter, we had great satisfaction with most of our pupils, and in hearing the very least of them repeat the Lord's Prayer and many texts of Scripture.

"Our Saviour has granted a particular blessing upon the word of reconciliation, and the celebration of Easter Sunday will not be forgotten by us. On that day, the first baptismal transaction took place at Hebron. Four adults, and one child of four years old, were partakers of this sacred rite. Among them were the parents of the child, who, in every respect, showed a true desire after the knowledge of their Saviour. This affords us the greatest pleasure, as these are the first, who have joined us here, from among the Heathen.

"Many Esquimaux have arrived for the sake of trade, but we do not fail to admonish them, to make the salvation of their souls their chief concern. They make all kinds of excuses; one has a long journey to perform; another cannot leave his birth-place; a third cannot act in opposition to his chief: which verifies the words of our Saviour, in Luke xiv. 16, &c.; but none like to be reminded of the consequence of death; and such conversations make them thoughtful. Formerly, they used to pass it off with levity. However, five persons have removed hither from among

the heathen, who declare their wish to hear the Gospel, and to forsake their heathenish customs.

"If, by God's blessing, our numbers should increase, our place of worship will soon be too small, as it will hold only about 160 persons. Many who would come to us from Okkak, are prevented by the want of dwellings. We enclose an Esquimaux letter, written by an old man, representing the case of the Esquimaux at Hebron, and their sorrow at losing Brother Kruth.

"During the last year, six persons have become candidates for baptism; four adults and seven children were baptized; one person became a communicant, and one departed this life. Our small congregation consists of 16 married couples, three widows, seven single brethren, 26 children;—in all of 102 persons: 72 joined us from Okkak, and ten from Nain.

"In our Missionary family we have, in general, enjoyed good health. Our dwellings are, as yet, small and inconvenient; but we live in peace and comfort.

"As to provisions, our Brethren at Okkak have kindly supplied us with many articles, and we have had some fresh meat. Our gracious heavenly Father has never suffered us to want, and we have enjoyed the grace and blessing of our Lord and his Spirit, to whom we are devoted with soul and body.

"Remember us in love and in your prayers, as your faithful and affectionate Brethren.

(Signed) "John Peter Stock. Jonathan Mentzel. Augustus Freytag."

EXTRACTS OF PRIVATE LETTERS FROM HEBRON.

"It is to-day exactly a year, since I arrived at this place with my wife, after a journey of three days from Okkak, and during this period we have found abundant employment. It was not long, before I was called upon to perform ministerial functions; the first baptism taking place the second day after our arrival, which was soon followed by an interment in the burial ground newly laid out. The office of schoolmaster, which I had ceased to fill for a space of thirteen years, I was also called to resume. My first lessons I had to give in an apartment without a fire, at a time when Fahrenheit's thermometer stood at 15 to 20 degrees below 0; yet my 28 scholars attended with pleasure, and some of them made good progress. This was particularly the case with a young good-looking Esquimaux, about 17 years of age, who had come to us from the heathen a year before, and was so intent upon acquiring knowledge, that he was not ashamed to sit down among the children who were learning their letters, and to receive instruction at home from two of the elder pupils.

"Last year, while we were still at Okkak, I made the acquaintance of several Esquimaux from the North, who came on a visit to that settlement. One of these was a man about 30 years of age; he wore his hair tied in a knot, which hung down upon his fore-

head, and had otherwise an extraordinary aspect. On my speaking to him concerning the love of GOD, in JESUS CHRIST, and beseeching him to attend to the salvation of his soul, he answered, that he did not yet wish to be converted. I inquired, why he wore his hair so differently from his countrymen in general, though I was not ignorant that it betokened his being a candidate for the profession of an angekok; he inquired, in return, whether I meant to cut his hair off; but shortly after, he untied the knot of his own accord, and approached the table. I confess the man looked somewhat formidable, with his raven locks hanging over his dark countenance. Of course I did not trouble myself about his hair, but, having gratified him with a pipe of tobacco, he left me apparently in very good humor. When he found me last winter here at Hebron, and repeated his visit, I perceived that he had cut his hair off. At this I testified pleasure, and repeated my exhortation, that he should forsake the works of Satan and of darkness, and turn to JESUS CHRIST his Saviour, who desired to make him happy. He inquired, if I had seen JESUS; I replied in the negative, but added, that while JESUS walked on earth, many hundreds had seen him, and though we could not see him with our bodily eyes, yet he was still near to us, and was acquainted with all our ways. His next inquiry was, where Satan dwelt; he received for answer; "In all unbelievers, as might be perceived by the evil deeds which were performed by his heathen countrymen in the North." After a short pause, he declared his intention to become a convert to Christianity, but not yet. During a second visit which he paid us in June, he went one Sunday with us to church. Here he was much struck with the response which occurs so often in our Church Litany, "Gude naegliktok nalegak, tussalaungme mittegut," *Hear us, gracious* LORD *and* GOD; and he afterward expressed a desire to hear more of our Saviour, and an intention to learn to read the Holy Scriptures. We hope, that he may persevere in his present disposition of mind.

"J. P. STOCK."

"Last winter we had an agreeable visit from Brother Lundberg, with whose assistance we finally determined on a plan for the erection of our mission premises. They will form, including the church, a building one story high, and 175 feet long by 34 feet broad; and, as you will find on a comparison of the accompanying plan with that forwarded last year, the number and scale of the apartments are considerably reduced. It was at the same time determined to build a boat-house, our temporary dwelling being too confined for the accommodation of the stores, brought us by the ship. This work I undertook with the help of two Esquimaux, and, by the Divine blessing on our exertions, saw it completed on the 4th of August this year. A wooden paling, 48 by 44 feet, has also been erected, as a necessary protection for a variety of our household and other articles against the unceremonious visits of the Esquimaux dogs. For the present, however,

these various labors, in which I have engaged with all my heart, must be suspended, as far as I am individually concerned, as I have received an appointment to proceed to Okkak, and to assist in the repair of the church at that place; yet I trust, means will be found, of carrying forward without interruption, the construction of the premises required for the completion of this settlement.

"FERDINAND KRUTH."

FROM OKKAK.

"Your farewell circular, addressed to your correspondents in this country, affected us deeply. Greatly as we valued this token of your unaltered brotherly affection, and your interest in the progress of this mission, we could not but grieve to think, that it indicated the close of a correspondence, from which we have all derived so much pleasure and encouragement. This I can especially declare on my own behalf, after being permitted for thirty years to exchange letters with you. May the LORD grant you to experience much of His gracious presence and His divine peace, under the pressure of increasing infirmity. I know you will sympathize with me, when I inform you, that it pleased our Saviour, on the 7th of December, to call home to Himself my dear wife, after a long season of bodily weakness. I feel my loss deeply; but the LORD, I trust, will comfort me, and strengthen me for the performance of my appointed duties. My own health, I am thankful to say, continues pretty good, though I am sensible of a gradual decline of bodily power. Let me have an interest in your prayers.

"S. STÜRMAN."

FROM NAIN.

"For particulars of the progress we have made in the work of translating the Scriptures, I must refer you to Brother Morhardt, who has been chiefly engaged in it, and with whom, we hope, you will be shortly able to converse by word of mouth. I will only state, that the book of Genesis has been translated, and is now in course of revision.

"The state of the mission generally, has, by GOD's mercy, been such as to afford us satisfaction and encouragement. We continue to have manifold proofs of the mercy and faithfulness of the LORD, displayed toward our poor Esquimaux. It is evident, that the grace bestowed upon them is not in vain, though circumstances are not altogether wanting, calculated to try our faith, and bring our patience into exercise. The collection of liturgical hymns, which you sent us, has proved a means of great blessing to the baptized members of our congregation. The following circumstance will illustrate the value set upon them. In distributing the copies, we had passed over two old widows, under the impression, that, as they can only read in the brightest weather, and with the help of glasses, the book would be of no use to them

at church. Hereupon they came to us, and earnestly begged for copies, assuring us that they would learn them off by heart, and adding, that they had been unable to obtain the loan of a copy for this purpose, as no one seemed willing to part with a book which all so highly prized. The applicants being worthy members of our Church, we did not hesitate to comply with their petition.

"I will now give you a short account of my journey to Hebron in March last. It was on the 20th of that month that I set out from Nain, at 4 o'clock A. M., and took the road over Kiglapeit. By 10 o'clock, we were already at the foot of that mountain; but, on our passage across it, we found the snow so deep and soft, that the dogs could scarcely force their way through it. In descending through a woody valley on the other side, we were obliged to dismount, and to make a track for the sledge by means of our snow-shoes, our trusty dogs helping us as well as they could in this tedious process. It was not till 6 o'clock P. M. that we reached the sea ice, in such a state of fatigue that we were glad to lie down on the snow, and spend the night beneath the canopy of heaven; for although the thermometer stood as low as 22 degrees below Fahrenheit's 0, the snow had not yet acquired sufficient consistency to allow of the construction of a snow-house. Under these circumstances, sleep was nearly out of the question. At 11 in the forenoon of the next day, I reached Okkak, and on the 24th continued my journey to Hebron. Here I spent three most agreeable days, and found cause to rejoice in the progress which the mission had already made. I was much edified by the gratitude expressed by the Esquimaux, for the privilege of having teachers residing with them. The child-like love to JESUS, and the evident desire to live to Him, which pervaded the small Esquimaux flock, made such an impression on my attendant, that he signified his wish to take up his abode among them. On my return to Nain on the 30th of March, I passed that part of the promontory of Kiglapeit where the Missionaries Turner and Liebisch encountered such imminent perils, as represented on the frontispiece of the little volume on Labrador, which you sent me. Eight days after, a great portion of the very ice, across which I had safely travelled, was broken up and carried out to sea; I had therefore sufficient reason, to thank the LORD for the protection mercifully vouchsafed to me.

"JOHN LUNBERG."

"Whoever is acquainted with the natural character of this barbarous nation, cannot but praise the LORD for the change, which has been wrought upon them by the power of His grace. They are by no means deficient in understanding; but, as they know nothing of *shall* and *must*, we often have to treat them like self-willed children, and take care that when we wish to mend matters, we may not make them worse. We can truly say, that our only hold upon them is that, which is derived from the influence of the Gospel of CHRIST; were this to be withdrawn, we should have

little or no means of maintaining good order, or of inducing them to adopt any suggestion of our own, however calculated to promote their own interest.

"C. B. HENN."

FROM HOPEDALE.

"We have received this year a very welcome present of tamarinds, but unaccompanied by any letter or distinct information, who is the kind donor. We have reason, however, to believe, that they are a present from Brother Pfeiffer in Jamaica, to whom we therefore beg to return our cordial thanks. He may be well assured, that we have taken a sympathizing share in the peculiar trials and perils, through which he has had to pass, and that we have experienced a corresponding degree of joy and gratitude at the deliverance vouchsafed to him. He will doubtless be ready to declare, that it was good for him to be afflicted, and that however sore the tribulation to which he was exposed, it did not fail to bring with it renewed proofs of the power and faithfulness of his gracious Master. During my imperfect service of thirty-four years in the LORD's house, I have been abundantly convinced of His love and goodness, displayed toward His servants in circumstances the most trying to flesh and blood; and I trust, that I feel an increased disposition to surrender my own will, and to leave all to His gracious direction.

"J. S. MEISNER."

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

III. BRITISH WEST INDIES.—JAMAICA.

EXTRACT FROM THE DIARY OF FAIRFIELD, FOR 1831.

Sunday, January 2d. WE held a love-feast with our national assistants and chapel servants, reminding them on this occasion, to be faithful in their functions, and to set a good example to the flock.

Sunday, 16th. We spoke individually with the baptized and communicant candidates of the South division. Many of them expressed themselves in a very satisfactory manner; some said that "it was their earnest desire to love our Saviour, in return for all that he had done for them, and that they wished to be more faithful in prayer." They were exhorted, to permit no occupation of whatever kind to prevent them from pouring out their hearts before the LORD, in the simplicity of faith.

Sunday, 23d. Many of our communicants from the South division, came rather late in the morning to speak with us; a circumstance which occasioned us to converse with them in companies of several at once. We took the opportunity of seriously

reminding them, of the necessity of examining their hearts before they receive the Holy Communion, and of seeking pardon and forgiveness for many known as well as unknown sins and offences. The discourse was from the Gospel of the day, Matt. vii. 1—14. The church was full of negroes and free brown people. Brother Pfeiffer afterward administered the Holy Communion to 255 persons, ten of whom partook, for the first time, of this sacred pledge of our Saviour's dying love.

Sunday, Feb. 6th. On this, our first prayer-day in this year, three adults were baptized by Brother Ellis, under a powerful sense of the presence of our gracious LORD; 18 persons received into the congregation or re-admitted, and 18 added to the class of candidates. After all the meetings were over, those who had received church privileges, came and expressed their gratitude for the favor the LORD had deigned to bestow on them.

Sunday, 13th. We conversed with 118 baptized Brethren and Sisters, and were glad to hear some express themselves in a very edifying manner. One brother said, "The LORD is indeed very good to me poor sinner; this I often feel when I call upon Him. I cry to Him day and night, to keep me from doing any thing that is bad." Another said, "Nothing is more sweet to my soul than my good LORD and Saviour; I try to love Him with all my heart." Brother Pemsel preached to a numerous company of whites, browns, and blacks. In the children's meeting, Brother Ellis baptized five infants, and commended them to the particular care of their Christian parents. There were also three couples married.

Wednesday, March 2d. Some new people called on us in the evening, to receive further instruction in divine things; one with great feeling declared, that "He fell morning and night on his knees, and prayed to GOD." On being asked for what he prayed, he declared, "I pray to GOD, that He may forgive me all my sins, and have mercy on me."

Sunday, April 3d. At 11 o'clock Brother Ellis preached to a crowded congregation, from Rom. vi. 4, and baptized four adults into the death of JESUS. The nearness of our risen LORD during this transaction, was very perceptible. Many shed tears of repentance for their past sins. Nearly 2000 persons being assembled at Fairfield, we held a second public service for those who could not attend the first. Afterward followed the meetings for the candidates and congregation members; 15 persons were received into the congregation, 2 admitted, and 33 added to the class of candidates. It was a truly blessed day for us all, and we trust that some were raised from the death of sin to newness of life.

May 1. Brother Ellis went to Oatlands, to speak with the new people and candidates. A considerable number of people attended the public service. Among them were several old and infirm members of the congregation, who can seldom come to Fairfield, and who expressed gratitude for this visit.

Wednesday, 4th. A brother, who had been excluded for a time

from the Holy Communion, expressed himself very desirous for re-admission; he said, "I long for the time, when it will please my Saviour to restore me again to my privilege. I know that I have grieved him much, through my bad behavior, but now feel very sorry for it, and pray to him continually to forgive me."

Sunday, 15*th*. Many communicant Brethren and Sisters came, to lay before us the state of their hearts previous to the Holy Communion. A brother said, "Not a day passes, in which I do not pray to my Saviour for His help and assistance. I also pray for my master and mistress. That GOD does hear my prayer, I truly believe. I will tell you one instance. When I saw my master living with a woman in an unmarried state, I considered that very wrong, and prayed to the LORD to incline his heart to be joined to her in holy matrimony. Now he is making preparation for it; and this makes me full of joy, and I look upon it as an answer to my prayers." Another said, "My good LORD is my friend; to Him I can open my whole heart; He understands best what is good for me. I feel that I have a sinful heart, but I know that JESUS is the Friend of sinners, so I come to Him with all my wants."

June 5*th*. We spoke with 64 of our baptized negroes, and found them in a pleasing state of heart. After a meeting for members of the congregation, 11 persons were admitted as helpers, (or assistants,) and recommended in prayer to the LORD. The rules for the helpers, drawn up by Brother Ellis, were then read to them and commended to punctual observance.

Thursday, 9*th*. Brother Ellis went to Somerset, and found the children of the school making tolerable progress. In returning, he called at the house of a Jew, who has two children here with us, for Christian instruction.

Saturday, 22*d*. Brother and Sister Pemsel rode to Malvern. The number of people who attended the following day, amounted to about 150; the names of ten new ones were entered in the list, which already numbers 108; a good beginning for a new congregation.

September 4*th*. Was the memorial-day of the married people belonging to our congregation. About 160 couples attended, and were addressed by Brother Ellis on the peculiar duties of their state of life. In the evening was the celebration of the Lord's Supper; on which occasion eight persons were confirmed, and twenty admitted as candidates.

December 18*th*. In speaking with the baptized, we were pleased to find, that many grow in the love and knowledge of our Saviour: after the preaching eight couples were publicly married.

Tuesday, 27*th*. This day was held as a festival for our baptized children, with whom we kept a love-feast; those who have enjoyed the benefit of instruction, gave testimony of their proficiency.

Saturday, 31*st*. We concluded this year in the usual solemn manner, with praise and thanksgiving for all the proofs of the undeserved mercy of the LORD, recommending ourselves and all

our congregations in this island, to His care and Almighty protection for the time to come. During the year 1831, there have been baptized or received into the congregation, ninety-one adults; children baptized, sixty-two; admitted as partakers of the Holy Communion, seventy-two; departed this life, twenty-eight; married, forty-six couples; excluded, forty-seven persons. The congregation, at the close of the year, consisted of 686 communicants, 264 baptized adults, 438 children, total 1388; candidates for reception or baptism, 306; new people and excluded, 664; grand total, 2358. The congregation and its servants herewith commend themselves to the prayers and intercessions of all who love the Lord JESUS.

JOHN ELLIS.
G. PEMSEL.

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM BROTHER JOHN ELLIS.

"*Fairfield, August 18th*, 1832.

"DEAR BROTHER,—I am thankful to be able to inform you, that, in our own, and the adjoining parish of St. Elizabeth, things are by degrees assuming a settled appearance. Our congregation at Fairfield is certainly in a much more promising way, than it was some months ago; most of those, who during the panic had stopped work for a day or two, have expressed their sincere sorrow, that they should have listened to unfounded reports, and acted upon them, and desire not to lose their connexion with us on that account: with such, we exercise church discipline as their several cases require; and you will rejoice to hear, that at the two last communions, we could admit about 380 persons of both sexes to this ordinance. At New-Eden, the estates' people attend pretty well, but the greatest proportion of the negroes in the mountain district are still prohibited by their owners from attending. The Somerset and Fairfield day-schools continue to flourish; we have fifty-two scholars in the former, and sixteen in the latter. The school-room at Somerset might be advantageously enlarged, if we had but the means.

"*October 6th*, 1832.

"The centenary jubilee of our missions was celebrated in most of the congregations on the Sunday after the 21st of August, and was spent not only as a day of praise and thanksgiving, but also as a season suited to special self-examination for ourselves, who have the privilege to labor in the LORD'S vineyard. A review of our own faults and imperfections brought us to the mercy-seat, where we experienced fresh tokens of the love and pardon of our gracious LORD and Master, and were enabled to make a renewed dedication of ourselves to Him. Pray for us, my dear Brother, that we may enter into the new century in the same spirit, as that in which our first missionaries commenced their labors, at least in as far as it was entirely consistent with the mind of CHRIST, and the spirit in which He would have his servants preach the Gospel. "J. ELLIS."

FROM BROTHER J. SCHOLEFIELD.

"*New-Carmel, August 15th*, 1832.

"DEAR BROTHER,—Though I make no doubt you have, long ere this time, been made acquainted with the leading circumstances of our situation during the late troublous period, I will venture on a brief connected recital of the facts that occurred in this vicinity, even at the risk of repetition. Till Christmas last our congregation continued to flourish as usual, and on the first, second, and third holydays, Brother Renkewitz and myself were fully occupied. I preached in the church, he in the school-room, at the same time; but these places were too small to admit all who came, many still remaining outside for want of room. On the third day (Tuesday) some of our free people were called away to join the militia, and repaired to their respective companies. On this occasion, several of the ladies remarked, that serious disturbances were apprehended in St. James', a statement which, I must confess, gave me no alarm, for I did not believe any thing of the kind. Wednesday properly belonged to the negroes; but several of our religious friends thinking it better to give the people the following Monday instead of it, I mentioned from the pulpit, that we should have divine service on that day: but how differently events turned out in the sequel! The very next day the revolt commenced in good earnest; but all the people in our neighborhood were quietly and busily at work, perfectly ignorant, I verily believe, of what was going on in St. James' parish, which was not more than twenty miles distant. About 11 o'clock on Thursday morning, a note was sent express from Mr. Scott to inform us that the negroes had risen, and were burning the estates in St. James'. From this time, one messenger after another came rapidly in, each bearing accounts more painful than the preceding. Our white neighbors were meanwhile fleeing as fast as possible to the nearest sea-port towns. Our worthy friend, H. Scott, Esq., came to know what *we* intended to do. This was a trying point. There was not a white person left in the neighborhood at the time, to our knowledge, but Mr. and Mrs. Scott, and they were intending to go without delay; but a kind Providence stopped them, though they three times attempted to set out. They had no occasion to fear their own people; but there was reason to apprehend their being overpowered by numbers. My mind was made up not to quit my post, but to remain and do my utmost to encourage the people to attend to their duty. My dear wife would not go away without me; we therefore all resolved to continue at the settlement, and commit ourselves and our dear children to the Divine protection. Our servants being free hired people, were obliged to join the militia, so that not a man was left on the place at night. The rebellion spread rapidly, and the flames appeared all round us. Our only refuge was the LORD, whose mercies endure for ever. Many of the free people of color, whose husbands and sons were among the militia, came to us for shelter, so that we had

more than forty females on the place, including the teachers and some children from the schools at Woodlands and the Cruse. I kept watch till half past 2 o'clock every morning, then Brother Renkewitz mounted guard; but we had no weapon: prayer and faith were our only shield. In the midst of all this distress, we imagined that ourselves and Brother and Sister Light were the only missionaries, who were in this dilemma. How great was our surprise and distress to learn, that Brother Pfeiffer had been taken into custody, and was confined at Mandeville. We often assembled with our few people, and prayed most fervently for him, nor did we fail to experience the LORD's presence among us when so engaged. Several owners of slaves sent their head people to get advice, and some came of their own accord, all of whom we admonished to be faithful to their masters. Many of them were much alarmed, but they promised to defend their masters' property to the last, and on no account to join the rebels; and I am happy to say, they were enabled to remain faithful. Not a single member of our congregation, either at New-Carmel or Beaufort, was at all implicated: on the contrary, where we had influence over the majority of the negroes, the properties were not burnt, even in the Darliston Mountains, and the neighboring district. Several of our people were near losing their lives for their faithfulness. This was the case with a man belonging to Mr. Williams, who had a mascheat (a kind of sabre) put to his throat, and with several others. The helper Brother in that neighborhood was intrusted with the care of his owner's property, and he kept his trust so well that, it was said, 10*l.* was offered by the rebellious negroes for his head; this man's name is David Alexander Bent, a brown slave. Not a single place was destroyed within five miles of New-Carmel; but, instead of the glory being given to GOD, many say, it was the guard at New-Savanna and Windsor Forest that saved this neighborhood. I am willing to admit, that, through the LORD's blessing, it may have been the means of keeping back the rebellious negroes from St. James' and Hanover, and also bodies of strange negroes in arms; but any man, who with calmness views the late proceedings, will discover, that the plan of operation with the insurgents was to send one or more of their party to the estates, and that these individuals influenced the ill-disposed negroes to burn their masters' property. It was seldom the case that a property was burnt, where the people of the estate refused to join. In every instance that has fallen within my own knowledge, the destruction was effected by the latter, either with or without assistance. Where the negroes were unfaithful, nothing but the occupation of the estates by the militia could prevent their being fired. I knew the members of our own congregation to be well-disposed; but among the people on the adjoining properties, there are a few ill-disposed, and many who never come near any church. Against these I therefore thought it my duty to warn the head people. Nothing was to be feared but superior force on the rebels' side; for no spirit of rebellion, but, on the contrary,

the most devoted attachment existed on Lennox and Hopeton and other properties in this district, and the most unequivocal testimonies of fidelity from the negroes to their masters, and especially toward Mr. and Mrs. Scott, were given. At the close of martial law, most of the Baptist chapels were pulled or burnt down by lawless mobs, and some of those belonging to the Methodists; and, since I began to write this, the most alarming reports have been circulated respecting ourselves. It is asserted, that no chapel or religious teacher unconnected with the Establishment or Kirk of Scotland must remain in this country; and though we have not hitherto been attacked, we do not know how soon we may be.

Our congregation at Darliston continues to prosper. We have got a new place, about two miles from the old one, for 200*l.*; toward which I have received, by collections and subscriptions, more than half, and the other half is promised. Brother and Sister Ricksecker and family came up from Mesopotamia about seven weeks ago, for change of air. They are living with us; and as we are three families at New-Carmel, we visit Mesopotamia, Shapton, and New-Beaufort every fortnight. It was lately resolved that Brother and Sister R. should remain at New-Beaufort during the wet season, as it is a healthy situation. But last week, while I was there with my family, trying to put the place in order for them, we learnt that riots had broken out at Savanna la Mar, during which several houses were pulled down belonging to some brown men called Deleons, who protected the Baptist missionary, and several persons belonging to the attacking party were wounded, though not mortally. Our persons were threatened, and word was sent to me, that I was not to live more than a fortnight, and that our places should be destroyed. I therefore broke off from the writing of this letter, and went to the people who sent the threats. I performed the journey yesterday, a distance of nearly thirty miles, and faced our worst enemies. They denied any intention to take my life; but told me, that, since I harbored Mr. Pfeiffer, they would pull down or burn our places. They added, that they had sworn to root out all but the Established Church and Kirk. I trust, however, that the Lord will protect us against these misguided men. We shall, as hitherto, study to discharge our duty in such a manner, as to give no reasonable cause of offence. Pray for us. I am, &c.,

"John Scholefield."

FROM BROTHER JACOB ZORN.*

"*Springvale, August 8th*, 1832.

"My dear Brother,—We have great reason to sing of mercy even in the midst of judgments, and gratefully to adore the Lord, that during the violent heavings of a political volcano, our mis-

* A more recent letter from Brother Zorn, to the Editor of the Missionary Intelligencer, was inserted in our last Number, page 574.

sionary cause in Jamaica has been comparatively little obstructed. We would acknowledge, that it was by the Saviour's goodness, that we were hidden in the hollow of His hand, and not by our own foresight or sagacity. We have the more reason to be thankful, since the missionaries of other Christian denominations have been called upon to suffer severely by the destruction of their chapels and the hinderances opposed to the resumption of their labors. It is our prayer, in which, no doubt, all who love the Lord JESUS in sincerity will join, that he would overrule all passing events for the glory of his name, the extension of his kingdom, and the good of souls. The attempts made to cast odium upon some parts of our religious system, especially our conversations with the individual members of our flock, by the dissemination of various calumnies, have hitherto proved abortive. The good sense of the community around us has taught them, that if any evil resulted therefrom, it would soon be visible. At any rate we cannot consent to waive this part of our plan, knowing that it is attended with the most decided advantage and blessing to the ignorant, and that without these familiar conversations, our labors would be nearly in vain. If it be the LORD's will, to put our faith and our love to further trials, we hope to be enabled to follow him 'through good and through evil report,' yea, 'to account it all joy, if we suffer reproach and persecution for his name's sake.' Even if He should be pleased to lay us aside for a time, we hope for grace to bow to so mysterious a dispensation. But these are only suppositions; the realities at present are much more cheering. Even in these times we have been able 'to lengthen our cords and strengthen our stakes.' By means of funds collected in this island, Brother Scholefield has already re-established the school and preaching-place at Beaufort. The congregation at that outpost continues steadily on the increase, and its members are thankful for a place in which they can assemble to worship GOD. At Malvern in the Santa Cruz mountains the prospect is no less encouraging. Our services there are attended to by a numerous and attentive auditory. Our esteemed friends, Mr. and Mrs. James Miller, of that place, do all in their power to support and further our missionary exertions. At my last visit, I was delighted to find, in my conversations with the negroes, an evident increase in the knowledge of GOD our Saviour, and a disposition to obey the dictates of his word. Being well aware, with what tenacity the negroes in general cling to their old sinful practices, such as persisting in their connexions without marriage, it was very gratifying to us, to find a number of our hearers quite willing to comply with the Divine command. At New Fulnec chapel, we are humbly thankful to perceive a returning desire after the Fountain of Living Waters, which had been somewhat weakened by the events in the commencement of this year. Since crop time, we have had very numerous auditories; on some occasions not a seat is vacant. We also begin to see a number of new faces, which encourages us to hope that our labors will not be in vain in the LORD. The

exclusion of two members from church-fellowship, and the disowning of several new people and candidates, on a late public occasion, has by the LORD's blessing, produced a beneficial effect on the rest of the congregation. The announcement drew many tears from all present, with other symptoms of Christian sympathy, which much relieved the painful duty, and produced a delightful unanimity of feeling, when we knelt down to intercede for these wanderers from the path of life. May the LORD of his infinite mercy not withdraw his Holy Spirit from them, but bring back all those who have erred!"

"*Irwin Hill, Sept. 7th.*

"According to a resolution of our Conference, the Brethren Ellis and Scholefield proceeded to Spanish-Town, and, on the 27th ult., waited upon our new governor, with an address, congratulating him on his arrival, and soliciting his favor and protection for our church and mission. They were received very graciously, and a satisfactory reply was given, as you will see by the papers annexed.

"I have the pleasure to add, that the same Brethren also called on the Bishop, and were received by him with much kindness; and that, in reply to a communication from Brother Ellis, he addressed him in the most friendly and satisfactory terms, with permission to make any use of his letter. The LORD be praised for all he has wrought for us; may we in return serve Him with the greater zeal and devotedness?

"J. ZORN."

FROM BROTHER J. T. LIGHT.

"*Irwin Hill, Oct. 5.*

"MY DEAR BROTHER,—By the mercy of GOD our church and premises are still standing, and, as things in this parish are becoming more tranquil, I cherish the hope that the Gospel light will continue to reflect its cheering rays also from this our dwelling-place, and that the Brethren's Missionaries may long be favored to labor in this island for the good of souls. We live, however, in awful times, and it is very evident, that a desperate attempt has been made by the arch-enemy, if not to destroy, at least to bring into open contempt, the precious doctrine of reconciliation with GOD through the blood of JESUS. Ever since the late disastrous insurrection, a spirit of libertinism has gone forth, which seeks to undermine all religion, and bring about, if possible, the return of former times and customs. We therefore need your prayers at the Throne of Grace, that those who have tasted that the LORD is gracious, may not be turned aside from following after Him, through the fatal influence of the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience. I have already said, there is quietness around us; I can also add, that our dear people and a number of our friends are very thankful, that in these parts a house of prayer, beside those of the Established Church, remains open, in

which they can enjoy the means of grace unmolested, and where the LORD visits and refreshes His people. The number who do attend, is indeed by no means equal to our wishes or reasonable expectation. There are, however, 'mourners in Zion,' who, I trust, will be comforted in the LORD's own time. Several of our members have departed this life; and of these, some, we have no doubt, are gone to join the Church triumphant. Several children have been baptized, and a few couples married. Not many adults have been added to the Church since my last report.

"On the 19th, we celebrated with great joy the centenary anniversary of the Brethren's missions. On Sunday morning, at sun-rise, a respectable company met to render their thanksgivings to GOD, for the gift of the precious Gospel, and for the mercies we now enjoy. At the former service, held at 11 o'clock, the church was filled with hearers, whose countenances bespoke the pleasure they inwardly felt on this occasion. The text was, '*How beautiful are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings*,' &c. A brief account was given of the circumstance, as connected with the first preaching of the Gospel to the negroes in the Danish West India Islands, and its subsequent happy effects in other islands. One woman and four children were baptized. In the afternoon, our negro Brethren and Sisters and the baptized children had a solemn love-feast. We felt happy on the occasion, and think the circumstances of the day will not soon be forgotten.

"Our dear and worthy friends, the Rev. Mr. Murray and his wife, Missionaries of the Wesleyan Society, who so kindly gave us shelter during the awful period of last January, have for some time past been prevented from exercising their ministerial duties, their chapel being shut up, and their congregation forbidden to assemble to edify each other. They have of late attended our public services. Last Sunday, with about thirty of their communicants, they joined us at the Lord's Supper. It proved to them as well as to ourselves a very refreshing season.

"JAS. T. LIGHT."

The Address of the Brethren's Missionaries in Jamaica to the Earl of Belmore, and his Excellency's Reply, referred to in the preceding correspondence, are as follow;—

ADDRESS.

"We, the ordained Ministers of the Episcopal Church of the United Brethren, sent forth to preach the Gospel to the negroes and others in the Island of Jamaica, beg leave to offer our sincere congratulations on your Excellency's safe arrival at the seat of your government.

"We feel particularly thankful to our most gracious Sovereign, for having placed us under the protection of your Lordship, and confidently hope that a steady perseverance in our efforts to disseminate the great truths of the Son of GOD, who 'shall speak peace to the Heathen,' may meet your Lordship's approbation,

and continue to secure to us the fair exercise of our religious functions, which we and our predecessors in Jamaica have enjoyed since the year 1754. We shall, to the utmost of our power, endeavor to merit a continuance of the favor and indulgence, granted to our Church by an Act of the Parliament of Great Britain, passed in the 22d year of the reign of his Majesty George II., as well as the good-will and approbation of the worthy proprietors, resident in the vicinity of our several settlements in this island, many of whom have so recently come forward with testimonials in our behalf.

"May our gracious GOD vouchsafe to our beloved Sovereign, William IV., and every branch of the royal family, His choicest blessings, and may He grant to your Lordship, and your esteemed Countess, uninterrupted health and happiness, with a rich measure of wisdom from above, to direct your Lordship in the important concerns of your government; and that your Lordship's endeavors may be abundantly prospered, and crowned with success, is the sincere wish and prayer of the Ministers of the Church of the United Brethren."

HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY.

"Gentlemen,—I return my sincere thanks to the Ministers of the Episcopal Church of the United Brethren, for their congratulations upon my arrival, and their good wishes for the success of my government.

"I am duly impressed with the paramount importance of the general diffusion of religious instruction; and while, as heretofore, you can appeal to the fact that, in the true spirit of the Gospel, you preach the doctrines of 'peace and good-will among men,' you will, by such a line of conduct, obtain the protection of all persons in authority, merit the concurrence of the proprietors residing in your vicinity, and best ensure the continued success of your virtuous endeavors."

ANTIGUA.

EXTRACT OF THE DIARY OF NEWFIELD, FOR THE YEAR 1831.

Jan. 23*d.* WE spoke with all our communicants. They are prevented from visiting us as much as they wish, by the additional labor in sugar crop time; but we were edified by the declarations of many, who indeed walk worthy of the Gospel, concerning their love to the LORD and His ways. In the evening, we celebrated the Holy Communion. At this busy season, many of the young people cannot attend the school, and hence they not unfrequently forget all they have previously learned.

Feb. 7*th.* Brother Zellner visited an old, sick, and blind communicant negro, *Jacob Sweet.* He was in a very delightful frame of mind, satisfied, and resigned to the will of the LORD. He said, "My heart is open to receive my Saviour. I long for nothing but

communion with my GOD, and to enjoy His love. I love His house, and His precious word, but am often obliged to remain at home on Sundays, for want of a guide to lead me on the way, which always grieves me." Brother Zellner sang a hymn and offered up a prayer, for which he was very thankful. From hence he went to Lavington, and visited other sick persons. Similar visits were paid, in the following days, on other estates. He found most of the sick resigned to the will of the LORD, to whom he commended them all in fervent prayer.

20*th*. We partook of the Holy Communion with 106 of our people, of the Belfast division. In speaking with them previous to this celebration, we had, in general, cause for satisfaction. *William*, from Elliot's plantation, expressed great thankfulness for the preservation of his life, having been knocked down and run over by a trash wagon, but without receiving any further injury than a few bruises. He added, "When I got from under the wheel, I fell upon my knees, and thanked the LORD for my preservation. He is, indeed, a good and merciful Saviour. I examined my heart, and found that I had well deserved punishment." Ever since, he has been much more constant in his attendance at church.

March 13*th*. We held a conference with the Assistants, and as several negro men and women had for some time neglected coming to church, and we have reason to suppose that their conduct is not correct, we sent them notice by the Assistants, that if in a fortnight they did not make their appearance, or show cause of absence, their names should be transferred into the class of excluded.

18*th*. Brother Zellner visited a sick man on Watson's estate. He was an excluded person, and dying of a consumption. Being asked what verse should be sung for him, he pointed out the hymn,

> "How very weak I am,
> My Saviour well can see;
> And how exceeding short I fall,
> Of what I ought to be," &c.

About a fortnight ago, an order was issued by government, by which the Sunday's market was abolished, and decreeing, that whoever bought or sold on that day, should be subject to a penalty. As, however, no other day was positively appointed for the negroes to hold a market, and dispose of their produce, they were very indignant, and many expressed their intention of resisting the orders of government. In speaking with our people, we endeavored to convince them, that they ought to show obedience to every order of government, encouraging them to hope that another day would soon be appointed; and we succeeded in pacifying most of them. They spoke very properly in reference to their Christian duties, and expressed their intention to perform them. Brother Müntzer preached an impressive discourse on the subject of the fourth commandment.

During the Passion-week, the Missionaries visited several plantations, and in the hours appointed for rest at noon, read to numbers of attentive negroes the daily lessons.

31*st*. Being Maundy-Thursday, Brother Zellner went to Cotton estate, to read the history of these days. Though the wind favored the working of the mill, the manager gave the negroes permission to attend the service. On leaving the place, Brother Zellner received the thanks of all the negroes.

April, Easter-Eve.—We had a conference with the Assistants, after which they, as usual, spent the night in the church, to be ready for the Easter morning service. A large company of adults and children assembled in our burial-ground, to hear the Litany, and afterward in the church, for the reading of the history of our LORD's resurrection. At 12 o'clock the chapel was crowded with attentive hearers, and many could not find room. It was a blessed festival for us and our people.

7*th*. At 2 P. M., we were not a little alarmed by the ringing of the fire-bell on Lyon's estate, from whence we saw the flames ascending near the mill and boiling-house, the fire having begun in the trash-house. This fire was soon extinguished, but now we saw with terror a thick cloud of smoke rising from behind the hill where the negro-houses lie. The Missionaries immediately repaired to the assistance of the unfortunate inhabitants; and, on ascending the hill, they saw that the greater part of the negro cottages were in flames. The poor negroes were running to and fro in despair, wringing their hands, and calling upon the LORD for mercy. The Missionaries did all they could to advise and encourage them. One communicant negro sister, attempting to save her property, was so dreadfully burnt that she died the next day. Fifty-seven negro houses were consumed, beside kitchens and outhouses. Immediate steps were taken to repair the damage, and to cover in the walls left standing.

10*th*. After the sermon, the congregation were exhorted to render assistance, and bestow their charity upon the poor sufferers. Many of the wealthier class among the negroes were very willing to do this. By *these* are meant such as, by the sale of their produce, have acquired some property, and keep horses, pigs, all kinds of poultry, sheep, and goats; and, in this respect, many of them act with great prudence and economy.

12*th*. *Patrick Gobels* met with a serious misfortune, being twice whirled round by the windmill. He was dreadfully hurt, and had several bones broken. He expressed himself resigned to the will of the LORD; and said, that this misfortune was sent to purify his soul more and more from the dross of sin. Brother Zellner prayed with him and his friends, who had assembled to offer assistance. One of his legs was afterward amputated, but the poor patient did not long survive the operation. We much regretted the loss of this worthy communicant, who was a very useful man in the plantation. He was buried on the evening of the 13th, when a large party of his friends and neighbors attended,

who were addressed by Brother Müntzer on the necessity of being always ready to appear before their Judge. The whole company showed the sincerity of their affection for the deceased, by many sighs and tears.

22*d*. Brother and Sister Coates arrived here, and will for the present reside at Newfield. They were recommended to the love and confidence of the congregation at the evening-meeting.

24*th*. Brother Zellner took leave of the congregation. He delivered a farewell discourse to the helpers and chapel-servants, which seemed to make a deep impression upon them. In the following days he took leave of several friends in the neighborhood, and set out for St. John's on the 28th.

July 10*th*. Two hundred and forty-two communicants of the Nonsuch division partook of the Lord's Supper.

December 11*th*, was the funeral of an old communicant brother, *Nicodemus*, from Gobels'. He was supposed to be more than 100 years old. He valued his Christian privileges, and was a faithful member of our Church to his end, having been thirty-six years a communicant.

25*th*. Being Christmas-day, we had a pretty large auditory, and afterward the celebration of the Holy Communion.

27*th*. After the public service there was a meeting for the children, of whom 224 attended; having recited a Christmas-hymn, they all joined with cheerful voices in singing the praises of our incarnate God.

31*st*. We concluded the year with the usual solemnities. In the year 1831, 27 persons became partakers of the Holy Communion; 9 were re-admitted; 38 admitted candidates; 3 adults and 33 children were baptized; 20 baptized as children, received into the congregation; 27 became candidates for baptism; 52 were excluded; departed this life, 25 adults and 10 children. The congregation at Newfield consists of 573 communicants; candidates, 186; baptized children, 363—total number, 1122; to which may be added 202 new people and excluded, making a total of 1324 persons.

J. G. Müntzer. J. Coates.

EXTRACT FROM THE DIARY OF ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA.

Celebration of the Centenary Jubilee.

August 21*st*. Was a happy, and, we trust, a blessed day to many here. A fortnight ago, we inserted in the newspaper a notice, that the centenary anniversary of the commencement of our mission would be celebrated at all our settlements in the island on this day; to which was added a request, that proprietors and managers would afford the members of the Church an opportunity of attending; a request which was generally complied with, by allowing the people to quit their work at 12 o'clock.

At the appointed hour, 2 o'clock, both the church and schoolhouse were filled with people, while many more were prevented

by the rain from joining us. The sight of above 2000 negroes, who only two hours before were working in the fields, but on their liberation at noon had hastened to array themselves in white garments, entering into the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving, and filling His courts with praise, was well calculated to encourage us in our work; forasmuch as we saw in this circumstance an evident token, that the labor of the Brethren's missionaries in this island has not been in vain in the LORD. We were also much cheered by the attendance of many of the most respectable of the white inhabitants, and among them of the worthy Rector of St. John's, our esteemed friend, the Rev. Mr. Holberton. We are also bound to acknowledge with gratitude the marked expression of approbation, which we received from his Excellency the Governor, Sir Patrick Ross, who honored us with his presence on this memorable occasion, attended by his aide-de-camp and private secretary. We shall not soon forget the kind manner in which he informed us of his intention to attend the meeting, and of his esteem for our Church and labors. May that Saviour whom we preach, the LORD of heaven and earth, bless him with the blessings of heaven above and of the earth beneath! Both in the church and school-house the congregations were addressed at the same time, by Brother Harvey and Zellner, from 2 Cor. viii. 13: "*If our brethren be inquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of* CHRIST." After which a statement was given, necessarily so concise that the half could not be told, of the wonderful ways of the LORD with our Church and Missions, and of our labors of 100 years in preaching among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of CHRIST. The collection for the missions amounted to 55 dollars. After the public meeting the congregation was addressed by Brother Bayne, from Heb. vi. 12, connected with Heb. xiii. 7. In conclusion, we implored the LORD, in fervent prayer, to renew our days as of old, to grant that His word may still have free course among us and be glorified, and to bless us, as He hath promised.

BARBADOES.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM SISTER MORRISH TO BROTHER C. F. RAMFTLER, LATE MINISTER OF THE BRETHREN'S CONGREGATION IN BRISTOL.*

Sharon, September 22d, 1832.

"DEAR BROTHER,—Brother and Sister Klose having safely reached this island, we are looking forward to our removal to

* This letter was not permitted to reach its primary destination. On the 25th October, a few days before its delivery, the gifted and indefatigable servant of CHRIST to whom it was addressed, and whom the writer regarded with the affectionate reverence due to a spiritual father, closed his eminently useful labors on earth, and entered into that rest which remaineth for the people of GOD. Though

Antigua in November next, pursuant to our call. We feel much at the prospect of leaving this dear congregation; but I can truly declare, that we are both completely resigned to the will of the LORD, not doubting that this, like all His former dealings with us, proceeds from wisdom and love. When our call was publicly announced we were quite overcome, in spite of every effort to repress our feelings. The dear negroes gathered around us after the service, and endeavored to comfort us with their expressions of affectionate sympathy. 'Don't cry, Missy,' they said, 'but pray to our Saviour.' In the well-being of this little flock, we shall always feel the deepest interest. When I first came to Sharon, I feared that I should never be able to distinguish one face from another; but now the expression of many of their countenances is strongly fixed on my mind. Our school continues to prosper; I have lately been able to attend to it pretty regularly, and with the behavior and improvement of the girls I have every reason to be satisfied. Several pupils belonging to the Testament Class are peculiarly promising.

"The dwelling-house at Sharon is now in a very advanced state; the church it is thought better not to commence till after the hurricane season. We are at present hewing stones in the neighboring gulley; and while Brother Taylor superintends this work, my husband overlooks the carpenters. He wished much to have seen the church finished before he left; but such not being the will of our Saviour, he is quite content. Ever since the hurricane he has been blessed with remarkably good health. My own continues but indifferent; but though I go on in weakness, I am thankful still to be able to go on. Continue to remember us in your prayers. I am, &c.

"ELIZ. MORRISH."

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a German by birth and education, he had long learned to look upon the country, in which for twenty-eight years he exercised the ministry of the Gospel, as his home; he felt strongly attached to her institutions, and knew well how to appreciate her civil and religious advantages. It was at all times his delight, to maintain a brotherly intercourse with his fellow-servants in other churches, and to co-operate with them to the utmost of his ability, in every undertaking having for its object the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom. As a home-laborer in the Missionary vineyard, (if such an expression be allowable,) few have been more zealous or more successful than our departed brother. Not only was he enabled to collect funds to a large annual amount, for the support of the Brethren's Missions, but he had the yet higher honor conferred on him, by the LORD of the harvest, of being instrumental in preparing laborers to go forth into His harvest. Of this company, some have already entered before him into their Master's joy: the survivors, while they mourn, with so many of their fellow-servants, the loss of a faithful friend, and a judicious and experienced counsellor, will, it is hoped, be enabled to *follow his faith, remembering the end of his conversation*, JESUS CHRIST, *the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever.*—ED. *Periodical Accounts.*

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

IV. DANISH ISLANDS.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BROTHER J. G. BOENHOF.

Niesky in St. Thomas, August 28th, 1832.

"My dear Brother,—I hasten to communicate to you, the following particulars of the celebration of the Centenary Jubilee of our Missions in this island, the scene of the first attempt made by the renewed Brethren's Church, to make known to the Heathen the glad tidings of salvation.

"At the approach of this important memorial-day, we waited upon our respected Governor, with the request, that all the negroes in connexion with our Church throughout the island might have a holyday granted them on this joyful occasion. Not only was this favor kindly conceded, but a proclamation was issued by the Governor-General of the islands, in which the planters were directed to exempt all the negroes belonging to our congregations from work of every kind, from the 20th instant at noon, to day-break on the 22d. The half-day was to be given them, that they might have time to make the needful preparations, and that the old and infirm might have an opportunity of reaching the settlements, previous to the morning of the festival. Many aged and disabled negroes were, at our request, conveyed to church, some by water, others on mules, and others again in vehicles drawn by four men. Each of them likewise received a present of 10 stivers, that they might obtain the needful refreshment, and thus be enabled with comfort to attend the various services. In fact we are bound to declare, that, on this occasion, the majority of the proprietors vied with each other in readiness to meet our own and the negroes' wishes, in every thing connected with the approaching celebration.

"The festival was ushered in by a solemn service at 9 o'clock in the morning, at the close of which an outline of the memorable occurrences of the last hundred years was communicated. At 11 was a public discourse in reference to the subject commemorated, which was attended by a great concourse of persons of all ranks, and was followed by the reception of several adult negroes into the Church of Christ by holy baptism. A love-feast was then held with all the members of our congregation, in two divisions, the number being too great to allow of their assembling at once. The services of the day were concluded by a discourse, and the admission into Church-fellowship of several baptized negroes. We can declare with truth, that it was a day of sacred joy and refreshment from the divine presence, and that the Lord was sensibly in the midst of us; so that we are enabled to believe that the flame of His divine love has been enkindled, or made to burn more brightly in many hearts. As for ourselves, we have been encouraged to enter upon a new Century of Missionary labor,

in firm, yet humble reliance upon His goodness and power, and not doubting that He, who hath hitherto performed miracles of grace on behalf of his feeble servants, and of the sable flock committed to their charge, will continue to deal with us according to His loving kindness and tender mercies.

"The seven negro congregations consist at the present time of nearly 10,000 souls, whom, with ourselves, we earnestly commend to the intercession of our dear brethren, and sisters, and friends.

"J. G. Boenhof."

REPORT OF THE CELEBRATION OF THE JUBILEE IN THE ISLAND OF ST. CROIX, ON THE 21ST AND 26TH OF AUGUST, 1832.

For several months previous to the celebration of this festival, the Missionaries had endeavored, both at church and in private conversation, to explain to the negroes its character and object, exhorting them at the same time to pray for the influence of the Holy Spirit, that their hearts might be prepared for a right observance of it. Our next object was to obtain for the negroes belonging to our church, exemption from labor on the 21st August, that we might be enabled to assemble with them in the presence of the Lord, on the same day, on which the whole Church of the Brethren would join with many warm friends of the Missions in its commemoration. We applied for that purpose to his Excellency our respected Governor-General Von Scholten, who not only immediately granted our request, but added to the order a recommendation to the proprietors, that they should give to our Church negroes half of the 20th, the day preceding the festival. Nor did his Excellency rest satisfied with this act of kind consideration, for he came himself to *Friedensthal* the day following, to express the warm interest in the Missionary work of the Brethren in these islands, felt by his Majesty, our beloved King Frederick VI., and to assure us, that he entertained the same sentiments, and was therefore disposed to make known, by every means in his power, to the inhabitants of these islands, this favorable disposition of the King and his Ministers. His Excellency added, that as he could not attend at all three places, and the position of Friedensfeld was the most central, he wished that the principal services might be held at that settlement, and as the church there was too small, that the congregation might meet in a large open field in front of the buildings. Although this suggestion interfered with our original plan, we could not hesitate as to the propriety of its adoption. We therefore appointed the open space to the east of our church for the service, and put up a temporary shed 60 feet long, and 10 feet broad, with a projection in the middle 15 feet by 5, under which the Minister's desk was placed. This part was covered with sail-cloth, and the rest of the shed with locust leaves, as a defence against the sun's rays.

The neighboring proprietors and managers with great willingness assisted Brother Staude in this work, by sending workmen.

His Excellency the Governor came himself several times to Friedensfeld, and expressed his entire satisfaction with all the arrangements.

At Friedensthal we had the pleasure of seeing a considerable number of our negroes arrive, as early as the evening before the festival, and on the morning of the 21st at 6 o'clock, our whole place was filled with them. The ground was strewed with locust-leaves, evergreens, and flowers, and the church was crowded. Brother Mueller opened the service at 7 o'clock, with that hymn,

"God reveals His presence,—
Let us now adore Him,—
And with awe appear before Him."

The hymn having been sung with deep emotion by all present, a prayer was offered up, followed by a short address. The names of all the brethren who had served in the seven settlements of the Mission, during the 100 years, were then read. Soon after, all, except the lame and feeble, went in procession to Friedensfeld, preceded by the Brethren Klingenberg and Mueller, and Sister Freytag. It was delightful, to behold the road crowded with negroes in white dresses; and when we came in sight of Friedensfeld, to see the whole place resembling a large white field, owing to the multitude already collected, the company being continually increased by thousands flocking in from the East and West.

Soon after 10 o'clock, his Excellency the Governor-General Von Scholten, and the Lieutenant-Governor Von Soebotker, arrived, followed by 43 coaches, containing the first authorities of the whole island. They alighted at the mission-house, and the congregation were meanwhile placed in order for the service, the men on the right, and the women on the left hand. Between the the rows, a passage was railed off, and benches set for the guests. In front was placed a bench occupied by 21 Catechumens, and before them two baptismal fonts covered with white cloths.

After a short stay at the mission-house, the whole company proceeded to the place of meeting in the order sanctioned by his Excellency—first, the missionaries and their wives, then the Governor and his whole suite, the band meanwhile playing a solemn piece of church music. All having taken their stations, his Excellency and the Members of the Council on a raised seat behind the Minister, the service commenced. Upon a long board covered with white cloth, and suspended over the Minister's seat, were embroidered the words "*Give to our* GOD *the glory*," and upon the cloth covering the desk, "*Praise the* LORD, *all ye Heathen! Praise Him, all ye Nations!*" This work was admirably executed by Sister Staude. On two pillars behind the desk, were two Danish flags flying, sent by the Governor. After a number of most respectable gentlemen, who arrived on horseback, had taken their places under the awning, three verses of that hymn,—

"All glory to the Sovereign GOD and Father of compassion," &c.
(*Hymn Book*, *No.* 659.)

were sung, accompanied by the full band of wind-instruments. Then followed a prayer, in which praise and thanksgiving were brought to our ALMIGHTY GOD and Saviour, for the abundant blessing which has attended the word of atonement proclaimed to the negroes in these islands, for 100 years past, and for the numberless proofs of His help, favor, and protection, which bow us in the dust before Him. We thanked Him for the favorable disposition of our gracious Sovereign, of the Governors-General of these islands, and the various colonial authorities; and prayed the LORD to shower down upon them His choicest benefits, to visit in mercy all the inhabitants of the land in which we are sojourners, to bring many to the knowledge of Himself as their Saviour, to grant a special blessing upon the Directors of our Missions in Europe, and upon all our congregations, and friends of our Missions, who join us in our praises and thanksgivings in this day, to accept our praises, and hear our prayers.

A sermon was then delivered from Ps. lxxii. 17th, 18th, 19th verses;—"*Blessed be the Lord* GOD, *the* GOD *of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things: and blessed be His glorious name for ever and ever, and let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen.*" The preacher showed how gloriously this prophecy has been fulfilled in our days, when so many Heathen nations are visited and made acquainted with the Gospel, by messengers from many Christian communities, and how our little Church stands as a proof of the Divine power of the word of the Cross, preached with fervor and simplicity, when, only ten years after her renewal, she was favored to go forth in the service of the LORD among the Heathen. Small, indeed, was the first attempt, (here the Minister referred to the history of the two first missionaries,) and yet it gave occasion for the celebration of this jubilee. Conscious of our unworthiness, we adore and exclaim, "*He* is the Holy One, we are sinners, but, nevertheless, the objects of His love and favor." This truth has been the conviction of all our predecessors, it remains our conviction; we also unite in bearing a joyful testimony to the faithfulness of that saying worthy of all acceptation, that "JESUS CHRIST *came into the world to save sinners*; and *that* GOD *so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*" May this continue to be the foundation of our preaching, that thus many souls may be turned from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to the living GOD. The minister also adverted to the privilege we enjoy, of living under the protection of a benevolent government, which has hitherto manifested a sincere desire, that the whole population of these islands might be made acquainted with the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST our Saviour. After the sermon, Brother Sparmeyer read the Church-litany, and having addressed the 21 Catechumens, and put to them the usual questions, they were baptized in the name of the FATHER, the SON, and the HOLY GHOST, by the

Brethren Sparmeyer, Staude, Mueller, and Klingenberg. This truly solemn meeting was concluded by singing,—

"O that we with gladness of spirit for ever,
Adored and praised our crucified Saviour!"

Our honored guests then paid a second visit to the mission-house, whence the brethren and sisters from Friedensthal returned with their congregation to receive his Excellency, who had expressed a wish to meet them at this, our oldest settlement in St. Croix; he soon followed, and remained here about half an hour, declaring his entire satisfaction with every arrangement and with the solemn service he had attended, and once more assuring the Missionaries of his continued favorable disposition, as well as that of his Danish Majesty. At 3 o'clock he returned to town. The members of our own congregation having again assembled, Brother Freytag addressed them at 4 o'clock on the text for the day: "*Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.*" His discourse made a deep impression upon a very numerous auditory. Eighteen persons were received into the congregation, and we concluded this festival with prayer, thanksgiving and praise.

We could not help feeling very thankful, that the weather, though raining for a whole week previous to the 21st, was quite fair on the day of the festival; and though, during the services, a heavy shower passed within a short distance of us, very few drops fell upon the audience. The day following proved again rainy, but for the after-celebration on Sunday the 26th, the weather a second time favored us. Another subject of thankfulness was this, that although the numbers assembled were very great, comprehending at least a third of the population of St. Croix, (above 7000 persons,) not the smallest disturbance took place, either before or after the festival. When the Brethren Klingenberg, Sparmeyer, and Staude, some days after, waited upon his Excellency, to thank him for all his kindness toward us, he expressed particular satisfaction at the circumstance, and added the flattering remark, that however large a number of persons belonging to the Brethren's Church might be assembled together, no detachment of police was ever found necessary to keep order.

The after-celebration took place on Sunday, the 26th, when three love-feasts were held, with rusks and lemonade. That for the children was at 10 A. M. It was delightful to see above 320 little cheerful black faces, filling the church, which still retained its decorations. Brother Freytag addressed them with great earnestness and affection; explained to them the nature of the festival, and how thankful they ought to be to our Saviour, for the mercy they enjoyed. To the question, whether they would give their hearts to Him, as the best friend of children, they answered with a loud and cheerful "Yes." In the afternoon, love-feasts were held by the Brethren Klingenberg and Mueller, first with the communicants, and then with the baptized and

received members, the candidates and excluded being admitted. At both meetings the church was crowded. We read to them the letter of the Elders' Conference of the Unity, (Vol. IV. No. 9,) which was heard with a deep impression. Some national assistants then rose and expressed, in the name of the congregation, their heartfelt thanks, saying that they were unworthy of such a favor. They begged to salute all the venerable fathers of the Church, and added, that they hoped, by our Saviour's grace, always to remember and follow their kind admonitions, in which declaration the whole congregation loudly expressed their concurrence. They were likewise informed, that all our congregations and missions beyond the great ocean, united in celebrating this jubilee, and in their assemblies joined in our songs and praises for all the wonders of GOD's grace conferred upon them; beside which, thousands of the LORD's people belonging to other Churches, had on this joyful day offered up their prayers to the throne of grace in their behalf, and for the whole work of the LORD among the Heathen.

We also made known to them, that the principal, and at the same time the earliest-formed, congregation of the Brethren, viz. that at Herrnhut in Saxony, had shown its affection for them by various gifts, having sent new covers for the communion tables, with chalices and decanters for all the seven congregations; and the single Sisters at Gnadenberg had sent baptismal vessels, which to-day were used for the first time, instead of the calabashes formerly in use. A friend in Christianstadt had sent four beautiful candlesticks for the table; and the Mayor de Nolly, a mahogany communion-table, in the place of the rather humble-looking table we had in use. On hearing of these gifts, the whole congregation exclaimed, "A thousand thanks for the kindness of our friends!" adding their particular wish that their gratitude might be expressed to the Governor General, their masters and mistresses, and so many other worthy friends. All the blessings they enjoyed, they were sensible, were to be ascribed to the mercy of their Saviour.

Thus we concluded this important festival, with humble thanks and praise to the LORD for the blessing bestowed upon us, beseeching him to grant to our negro congregations a revival of the right spirit, and to enkindle anew in their hearts the fire of His love, that they may grow and bear fruit well-pleasing to Him. The jubilee was celebrated in like manner at the two other Mission-settlements in this island; and among other cordial congratulations, we received one from Brother Thraen, in the name of our Missionaries in Antigua. May the LORD hear all our prayers, accept our praises, and continue to vouchsafe to us his grace and mercy, that this land may be filled with his honor and glory. Signed by the Missionaries in Friedensthal.

J. KLINGENBERG. J. C. FREYTAG. J. G. MULLER.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BROTHER JOHN KLINGENBERG.

"*Friedensthal, Sept. 29th*, 1832.

"DEAR BROTHER,—I am thankful to be able to inform you, that the impression made on the minds of persons of all classes by our late jubilee celebration, has been by no means a transient one. As to the negroes, their simple but often very interesting remarks on the subject of it, if collected together, would fill a volume. Nor do these merely refer to the external circumstances of the festival: the expressions of many of our people prove that they have derived real, and we trust abiding spiritual profit from the services which they attended. This is particularly the case with the new-people, most of whom appear to be animated with a more earnest desire, than we have ever yet observed, to be converted, and to enjoy the privileges of the Church of CHRIST. Their attendance on the means of grace is at present such, as to afford us the utmost encouragement. As to the relation, in which we stand to the civil authorities and the inhabitants of these islands generally, I may venture to assert, that if we had a sufficient number of Brethren possessed of the needful gifts, and were disposed to relax the discipline and modify the regulations of our Church, we might, humanly speaking, in a short time, double the number of our congregation members. But we would rather pray for grace and constancy, to act upon the principles of our predecessors, and abstain from receiving into church-fellowship any persons, but such as are earnestly seeking the one thing needful, and are desirous to confess CHRIST, not merely with their lips, but also by their lives. We commend ourselves and our negro-flocks to your intercessions at the throne of grace.

"JOHN KLINGENBERG."

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

V. SOUTH AFRICA.

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM BROTHER H. P. HALLBECK.

"*Gnadenthal, May 16th*, 1832.

"MY DEAR BROTHER,—My last letter to you was dated March 31st, and I now enclose our diary up to the same date. The Passion-week and the Easter festival were days of great blessing to us and our congregation. At speaking with the communicants a few days ago, many of the old people could not find words to express their gratitude, for what they had enjoyed in those happy days: 18 adults were baptized or received into the congregation; 15 were spectators at the holy communion; and 7 became candidates for baptism. On Good Friday and Easter-day, there was such a concourse of people from the neighborhood, both white and colored, as I have never seen before. At Elim, 2

became candidates for baptism; 4 were baptized or received; and 13 were spectators, 8 of whom were confirmed last week. At Hemel-en-Aarde 2 adults were baptized.

"During the last two months, we have had remarkably fine weather; this day, the first winter rains are falling, for which the farmers have been longing some time. We have lately improved and thoroughly repaired our bridge over the river Zonderend, which still remains the only one of any size in the colony.

"Our Infant-school continues to answer my expectations in every respect, and the children are as steady in their attendance as ever. Pray do not forget the pictures. Any kind of picture-books are useful, but Scripture-pictures would be particularly acceptable. Among many advantages of this interesting institution, it is not the least, that the teachers of the elder children are induced to bestir themselves, lest their pupils be considered inferior to the infants, as they really are found to be, in more than one respect.

"We have lately had an opportunity of conversing with Brother and Sister Lemmertz, who spent a fortnight here on their way to Groenekloof, on various subjects connected with the present state of Enon. Brother Lemmertz has left that station with the pleasing impression, that, notwithstanding many imperfections, it is still a light shining in a dark place. In their gardens, both the Missionaries and Hottentots suffered severely by an inundation in February, but they are far from being disheartened in their horticultural pursuits. The heavy rains, which made the river overflow, so improved the pasturage, that, after all, they find more cause for thankfulness than for sorrow. The cattle is in unusually good condition, and there is consequently milk in abundance. The last letters from Shiloh, contained an account of the unfaithfulness of the interpreter, *Daniel Kaffer*, whose hankering after sorcery and unjust dealings with the people render him unfit for his office. We are, therefore, rejoiced that Brother Bonatz is on the spot, who is both desirous and able to learn the language, and thus make us less dependent on the interpreters. Brother Schopman is the temporary manager of our smithy, and the LORD's blessing attends his labor. He is also well qualified to act as schoolmaster; during the absence of Brother Sonderman, he has charge of the boys' school, and endeavors to introduce various improvements.

"Thanks to our Saviour, we live here in undisturbed peace and harmony, and I can truly say of our whole family, that we are never happier than when we are together. Our evening-meetings for reading accounts from our various congregations and missions, are very well calculated to keep up this social spirit among the Missionaries.

"In the expectation that Brother and Sister Brauer will join our ranks in a short time, we are preparing to build another house, which will be the fourth in that new row which was commenced in 1824, parallel to the west gable of the church. We

trust our Saviour will continue to bless our different branches of industry, so that we can erect the building without becoming burdensome to our General Mission-fund. We have, indeed, great reason to be thankful to Him, that, for several years past, our income here at Gnadenthal has exceeded our expenditure, notwithstanding the erection of various new buildings. For this favorable result, we are in a great measure indebted to Brother Luttring, and the improvements he has effected in our mill. Speaking of improvements, there is one which I should wish to introduce into our church, if you approve of it. You remember the two unwieldy, unsightly pillars supporting the middle beam. I think they ought to be removed, and their place supplied by two cast iron supporters. The height of the church from the floor to the middle beam is sixteen feet and a quarter, the thickness and proportions of the supporters, some experienced builder in England would be able to calculate. In making this order, I presuppose, however, that the supporters be composed of two or more pieces, else, I do not see how we can bring them hither from Cape Town; and that the prime cost does not exceed 30*l.*, which, considering what the iron pipes for Enon cost, would probably be the utmost of the expense."

"*July* 16*th and* 28*th.*

"About a fortnight ago, I was in Hemel-en-Aarde, where six adults were advanced in Church privileges, of whom one was baptized. The number of lepers is now between 80 and 90.

"The state of our congregation is encouraging; peace and tranquillity prevail, deviations are of rare occurrence, and proofs of a growth in grace are not wanting. This very morning, a person gave me a very edifying account of her feelings and experience. Our schools are well attended, and the progress of the pupils is pleasing. Never is a child absent from the Infant-school, unless prevented by illness. One of my assistants, *Henry Pfeiffer*, delights in the work, and his countenance beams with pleasure, whenever he is permitted to manage the school without my aid. He lately stated to Brother Teutsch, that he considers it a duty which he owes to our Saviour, to devote himself to the instruction of the children. This is as it should be; if the constraining love of CHRIST be the main-spring, all will be well. Whenever he is not engaged in the school, he is fully employed in the tanning business, where he is very useful, and earns so much, that he can begin to save a few shillings for futurity. He is now seventeen years old, and leads a quiet, retired life, avoiding all improper company.

"We have again enlarged our plantations, by clearing and digging a waste piece of land of some acres in Kornlandskloof, and planting about 8000 young trees, mostly oaks. Brother Teutsch has conducted the work, and the plantations will therefore bear his name.

"The times in which we live, are indeed wonderful. Whoever does not perceive the finger of GOD, and hear His thundering

voice in the marvellous events of the age, must be blind and deaf indeed. Even our sequestered corner feels the effects of the all-sweeping tempest. The state of society in this colony continues in many respects to be very unpleasant. It is, indeed, such as to make us feel very thankful, that we can avoid meddling with civil and political questions of every kind, and confine ourselves entirely to our Missionary work. In this we are happily left undisturbed, and I do not remember a period during the fifteen years of my abode here, when we knew less of troubles from within and from without, and enjoyed more peace and happiness both in our Mission-families and in our congregations. May the LORD graciously preserve to us these mercies! Many of the farmers in our neighborhood continue steady attendants at our Church on Sundays, and are earnestly seeking the one thing needful. This reminds me of a pertinent answer, given the other day by a Hottentot to a farmer's wife, who is dissatisfied with her husband for being a steady attendant at our church. The lady in question expressed her displeasure, that her husband took her so frequently to sit among filthy Hottentots. 'If you cannot bear to worship with us, Madam,' said the Hottentot, 'then go down on your knees, and pray to GOD, that you may not come to Heaven, for *there*, I know, is a crowd of filthy Hottentots, as you call them, and what a torment to be *for ever* in their company!'

"I am this moment returned from a Mission-conference, at which three of our Hottentots became candidates for baptism, four adults were appointed to be baptized; and ten young people to be received on Sunday next. "H. P. HALLBECK."

FROM BROTHER JOHN LEMMERTZ.

"*Groenekloof, July* 10*th*, 1832.

"DEAR BROTHER,—You will have heard from Brother Hallbeck of the call which we received some time ago, to remove from Enon to this place. We accepted it, in reliance on the gracious help of the LORD; and after taking an affectionate leave of the congregation at the former settlement, and the dear children whom we had been permitted for a season to instruct,—we set out for Groenekloof, on the 22d March. A visit of a fortnight at Gnadenthal constituted a very agreeable break in our journey, and delayed our arrival here till the 29th April. Here the charge of the girls' school has also fallen to my lot. Of the ninety-one girls belonging to this congregation, about fifty attend pretty regularly, the rest are chiefly prevented from coming, by the manual labor in which they are engaged. There is also a Sunday School, for the benefit of the young women and the elder girls, and this is likewise under my superintendence. Last week we were busily occupied in speaking with the various classes of new people, and candidates for baptism, both adults and children, and were thankful to discover traces of a work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of many. Four persons have since been admitted

candidates for baptism, and twelve as candidates for the Holy Communion, six with a view to confirmation. The whole number of souls under our care, amounts at the present time to not fewer than 610, of whom 210 are communicants. Owing to the situation of this settlement, our people have a better opportunity of earning a livelihood, than the inhabitants of any of our more distant stations; but they are at the same time more exposed to temptations, especially to that of the immoderate use of spirituous liquors, one of the besetting sins of the Hottentots, and this circumstance often occasions us much anxiety and trouble. We entreat an interest in your prayers, that the LORD, who has counted us worthy to serve Him in this part of His vineyard, notwithstanding our weakness and unworthiness, may sustain us by His almighty grace, and enable us, with warmth of heart, to make known that salvation, which He has procured for sinners, by His suffering even unto death. "J. LEMMERTZ."

FROM BROTHER ADOLPH BONATZ.

"*Shiloh on the Klipplaat, May 7th*, 1832.

"MY DEAR BROTHER,—On the 21st April I arrived at this place, in company with Brother and Sister Fritsch, having experienced much of the LORD's mercy and protection during a long and somewhat tedious journey from Gnadenthal. On our way hither from Enon, we spent a day very agreeably at Somerset, a pretty little village, where many English friends of our Mission reside. Words cannot express, what my feelings were, when I first came in sight of our own settlement. My gracious LORD, who has appointed me to serve Him in this distant part of South Africa, will, I humbly believe, in answer to the prayers which I then offered up, and which I offer up daily, assist me by His grace and spirit, and enable me to do something for the spread of His Gospel among the Tambookie tribes. My astonishment was great, when I beheld several hundred individuals of this nation, of whom the men are strong and well-formed, and from childhood trained to habits of rapine and bloodshed, living peaceably together under the superintendence of our Brethren, and many among them, sincerely desirous to hear the word of GOD. Some of the baptized of both sexes give us much satisfaction, by their orderly and Christian demeanor; and we pray that the LORD, by His good Spirit, may lead them to a right understanding of the whole of His revealed truth.

"On the 25th, Brother Halter and myself rode to the Kat revier, in quest of timber for the building of the church, and then forward to the eastern boundary of the Cape colony. Here we found a party of twenty Hottentot soldiers, with whom we had many pleasing conversations. The next day we proceeded to Chumie in Caffraria, and met with a most kind and friendly reception from the Missionaries at that station, the Rev. Messrs. Chalmers and Weir. Their schools, in which the children are taught to read the Caffre and the English languages, pleased me much. I obtained

from these worthy men three chapters of the Gospel of St. John, which Mr. Chalmers has translated into the Caffre dialect, and is about to print. In the afternoon we took leave, and returned to Kat revier, where Brother Halter held a discourse to about twenty Hottentots. "ADOLPH BONATZ."

OBITUARY.

Departed this life, at Salem, North-Carolina, on the 20th of December, 1833, *Brother G. Benjamin Reichel*, a minister of the congregation, and principal of the Female Academy at that place, aged 48 years.

THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS TO THE UNITED BRETHREN'S MISSIONS, RECEIVED IN 1833, ARE HEREBY GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

Through the Rev. W. H. Van Vleck, New-York.

From the Ladies of the Reformed Dutch Church, in Broome-street, by the Rev. Dr. Brodhead,	$50 00
From a Female Member of the Brethren's Church,	8 00
From Mrs. Sarah Battell,	10 00
From Mr. Thomas Lee, for Barbadoes,	1 00
From Mr. J. W. Brett, at different times,	70 00
From a Member of the Protestant Episcopal Church,	10 00
From Mr. Robert Gosman, Upper Redhook,	50 00
From Jacob Shatzel, Esq., at different times,	100 00
From the Rev. Mr. Forrest, of the Associate Reformed Church,	5 00
From a Female Member of the Brethren's Church,	1 00
From Mr. John W. Petri,	1 00
From a Friend in Canada, by Mr. George M. Tracy,	25 00
From a Lady 50 cents,—from a Friend 50 cents,	1 00
From O. B. Butler, Esq., Norfolk, Conn.,	10 00
From the Female Missionary Society of the United Brethren's Church, New-York, for the new chapel at Malvern, Jamaica,	100 00
From Mrs. C. Porter a donation of cloth.	
From the American Tract Society an appropriation *for Tracts.*	

Through the Rev. P. Wolle, Philadelphia.

Missionary Subscription,	103 75
From his Male Sunday School,	3 00
From his Female Sunday School	13 00
One day's proceeds of an Exhibition of a Painting, by Mr. J. W. Brett, for African Mission,	72 59

Through the Rev. S. Reinke, Graceham, Maryland.

From Mr. Eichelberger,	10 00
From Graceham, including a gold ring,	9 35

Through the Rev. L. D. Von Schweinitz, Bethlehem.

From Mr. Z., at Lancaster,	5 00
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From the Litiz Female Missionary Society,	48 00
From the Society of the United Brethren for Propagating the Gospel among the Heathen,	10,500 00

Through the Rev. Benjamin Mortimer, New-York.

From a Friend,	10 00
From the late John Bingham, Esq.,	2 00
From the Ladies in Litchfield, Conn., for the Missionaries in Greenland, by Mrs. Gould,	15 50
From Miss H. B.,	3 0

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